Collective Worship Policy

Version	Date	Author(s)	Changes
1	May 2023	S Corry	Timings types of worship
2	September 2023	S Corry	Changes to timings and vicar
3	September 2025	S Corry	Organisation of collective worship rewritten

Policy information:

Date of ratification:	September 2025
Ratified by:	Head Teacher
Review frequency:	2 Years
Next review due:	September 2027
Source:	School advice and guidance from DBE
Type of policy:	Non- Statutory

All staff and volunteers working in our school share a responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of the children with whom they come into contact

Aims

- To worship God
- To affirm our identity as a Church of England School and foster community spirit
- To be inclusive, encouraging a sense of unity and identity
- To celebrate being part of God's world
- To acknowledge and celebrate diversity of culture
- To provide time for silence, stillness and reflection
- To invite children to share and develop their personal faith experiences
- To enjoy a variety of forms of Christian worship
- To affirm and develop Christian values
- To promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

Objectives

- To celebrate the major Christian festivals in a manner consistent with the practise of the Church of England.
- To learn about and celebrate festivals and religious practices from other major Faith groups.
- To teach the value of reflection and introduce children to the practice of prayer.
- To provide opportunities for the exploration of a wide range of social, environmental and interpersonal issues in the context of a moral framework.

The majority of acts of worship over a term will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Requirements

Guidance on the legal duties of schools regarding collective worship can be found here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collective-worship-in-schools

All children attending school shall, on each day, take part in an act of collective worship unless the parent requests that he/she be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in the school. The daily act of collective worship shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England. Use should be made of the local Parish church for occasional acts of collective worship. All maintained schools must provide religious education and daily collective worship for all registered pupils and promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development.

The Planning Framework

A focus for our worship is planned at the end of each term for the following term. The worship themes should be:

- appropriate for our children
- meet legal and Diocesan requirements
- supportive of the school's RE curriculum
- invite participation

Our Acts of Collective worship may include
Music
Silence
Art
Storytelling
Drama
Poetry
'Big Questions'/'I wonder…' questions (philosophical)
Links with current affairs and awareness days/weeks/months
Reading of sacred stories/texts
Visitors
Prayers

Worship Vision Group

Pupils from the Year 1 to Year 6 class are elected to be members of the Worship Vision Group. They regularly participate as leads in acts of whole school worship and also are responsible for an act of collective worship each term.

Organisation of Collective Worship – Daily 15 - 20 minutes

Monday	8:45-9:00	9.00 – 10:25 – run by year 6 children AOCW – celebration Leaf awards Out of school celebrations HT awards Music awards
Tuesday		9.00 – 10:25 Singing and prayer AOCW S Corry and pupil
Wednesday		9.00 – 10:25 AOCW – visiting vicar or church representative
Thursday		9.00 – 10:25 ISING pop AOCW and singing
Friday		9.00 – 10:25 In class AOCW

See AOCW coverage plan for the year

Class assemblies

Nativity – Year R, 1 and 2. Year 3, 4 and 5 and 6 class assemblies in Spring/Summer Term.
Easter – Year 3, 4 and 5
Summer - Year R, 1 and 2 each to do a class assembly on a Friday.
Year 6 end of Year performance.
Each Class to do a class assembly 1 x year plus a special assembly/performance

Music

Music plays an important part in collective worship.
During each day's whole school collective worship, a hymn is chosen and sung. Children who play a musical instrument are encouraged to share their talents at the beginning of assembly. A song/hymn appropriate to the themes is sung. Members of the collective worship committee help to run the assembly.

Equal Opportunities

Our school worship is about sharing our common concerns, responsibilities and developing positive attitudes and values. It is about affirming the value of each individual, whatever a child's gender, ethnicity, physical or mental ability.
We are committed to ensuring that every child will derive some benefit from collective worship, whatever their academic ability. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Evaluation strategies currently used to assess effectiveness are:

- Observation of the children's attentiveness and level of interest shown.
- Feedback from children/staff, written or verbal.
- Evaluations kept and influence future planning.