



Collective Worship Policy

As a Church of England school, we see it as our duty to give children and members of the school community the skills to maximise their engagement with the world around them, enable them to grow spiritually, emotionally and personally, and develop the character and values which will serve them well in future life and support success.

Introduction

This policy recognises the fact that Taverham Junior School is a Voluntary-Controlled Church of England School, and was originally created following advice, support and staff training from the Diocesan Schools' Adviser, Gill Hipwell, in September 2010. It was reviewed in December 2015, in consultation with Dot Lenton, Diocesan Schools' advisor.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. The act of worship should reflect the school's status as a Voluntary Controlled Church of England school.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher to discuss the matter. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common values, concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship and reflect through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the aims, values and ethos of Taverham VC CE Junior School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- Share common aims and values
- Think, reflect, consider or pray
- Celebrate achievement and special times
- Explore together the world in which we live
- Develop a community spirit
- Marking and reflecting key Christian festivals

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- Worship that which is considered worthy
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Explore their own beliefs
- Develop their own spirituality
- Reinforce positive attitudes and values
- Participate and respond
- Reflect on what it means to be human

The Structure and Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place daily in the school hall, or the classrooms.

There are three whole-school acts of collective worship/assemblies each week. These are held on Mondays (9.45-10.10am, led by the Headteacher), Wednesdays (2.30-3pm, led by the Deputy Headteacher) and Fridays (9.45-10.10am, led by the Headteacher).

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, collective worship takes place in year groups or classes.

Monday collective worship, year group and class assemblies will focus on the current theme, linked to half-termly 'Values for Life'.

Wednesday collective worship will have a stronger focus on singing and the school's 'values for learning'.

Friday collective worship will focus on celebration and achievement (Achievement award, Citizenship award, housepoints, sporting success etc)

For each act of collective worship the following should be considered:

P-Place: create a special environment, using music, image, light or scent

Q-Quality: collective worship should be high quality, meaningful, thought-provoking, memorable, special.

R-Response: collective worship should elicit a response from the children; question and answer, song, prayer, time for thought/reflection, sharing work etc.

S-Structure: any act of collective worship should feature a similar structure: Gather/Engage/Respond/Send (see below)

Gather: Bring together, welcome, create a sense of community

Engage: Present the message, through imagery, a story, dance, drama, a song, story, hymn or prayer, talking about an event or charity etc.

Respond: A personal response from the children, through question and answer, song, prayer, a time for reflection, sharing of work etc.

Send: Something to take away (e.g. a thought, a challenge, something to find out/do, or even a tangible object)

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

Collective worship is also led by visitors, including the parish priest, Rev. Paul Seabrook.

This policy: December 2015

Review Date:

Appendix 1

	AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1	SPRING 2	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
'Values for Learning'	Aspiration	Communication (+Anti-Bullying Week)	Curiosity	Focus and Determination	Independence	Teamwork
'Values for Life'	Yr A (2017-18) Trust	Friendship	Courage	Thankfulness	Peace	Wisdom
	Yr B (2014-15) Hope	Compassion	Creativity	Humility	Truthfulness	Service
	Yr C (2015-16) Justice	Forgiveness	Perseverance	Respect	Generosity	Responsibility

N.B. Monday collective worship/ assemblies will 'launch' each new theme/values. 'Values for Learning' themes will be launched in Wednesday assemblies. Friday assemblies will focus on

celebration/achievement (Achievement/citizenship awards, housepoints etc); however, some assemblies will respond to particular events or times of the year and may not be linked directly to the theme for that particular half term.

Appendix 2

Some Helpful Sites for Collective Worship

(Many of these resources are free to download and use)

www.imagebible.com – some great comic strip stories, including The Prodigal Son

<http://www.spinnaker.org.uk/>

Includes ideas for celebrating Christian festivals, as well as stories with a Christian message

<http://cowo.culham.ac.uk/links/index.php>

A host of links to collective worship sites, including multi-media and topical resources and ideas for reflection

<http://www.angelfire.com/trek/annegordon/>

A practical and helpful site which includes a teachers' survival kit and helpful hints for both teachers and clergy on visits to churches

<http://www.schoolassemblies.btinternet.co.uk/>

Includes a Bible search engine and a calendar of saints' days and festivals

http://www.sermonscom4kids./henry_martin.htm

Christian illustrations and PowerPoint storyboards

<http://www.hibbert-assembly.org.uk/>

Excellent sections on tricky topics such as coping with death

<http://www.assemblies.org.uk/>

Good all-round resources

<http://www.damaris.org/cm/home/primaryaol>

Subscription site that allows you to tailor collective worship to your own needs

<http://www.onemoretime.biz/aboutwanderweg.php>

Source of reflective music to purchase for use in collective worship

<http://www.reep.org/cw/index.php>

Focused on the environment & conservation

www.barnabasinschools.org.uk

