



Parwich Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Review every two years

Introduction

The Collective Worship Policy at Parwich Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

The Collective Worship Policy of Parwich Primary School is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, class or groups within school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship 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 ethos of Parwich Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

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
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Parwich Primary School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich class work through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship

The role of the school team will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place either within school, The Celebration Garden, The Memorial Hall or St Peters Church.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership

Every member of the school teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school week and throughout the school year. Our local Vicar may lead some Collective Worship; dates and themes will be relevant to the Christian faith and organised through the school team.

The Act of Collective Worship

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. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and/or prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will have a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship (e.g. change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc.).

Equality and Accessibility

Parwich Primary School creates a safe environment where all staff and children are respected and free to express their beliefs and opinions without fear of discrimination. Our school understands its responsibilities in relation to the Equality Act 2010, specifically, that it must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils for any of the following reasons:

- Age
- Sex
- Race
- Disability
- Religion or belief
- Sexual orientation
- Gender reassignment

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.