

FOUR SWANNES PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

A non-denominational daily act of worship (in statutory accordance with the Education Act 1988) for all the pupils will take place in the school. This will be mainly of a broadly Christian character but it will also reflect concern for the family backgrounds, ages and development of the children.

We recognise that collective worship strengthens the corporate life of the school; that it presents opportunities to support and nurture the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the children. It can be a time of reflection on more specific aspects which underline children's learning and well-being in all areas of the school life and curriculum. At the same time, we acknowledge the right of parents to withdraw their children from collective worship and also the right of staff who feel they cannot participate in the acts of worship.

We acknowledge that the school is not a worshipping community sharing the same religious beliefs but that it is a caring educational community aiming to nurture and develop all aspects of the development of the children in all its activities.

Collective worship will be:-

1. A listening and sharing time which will specifically help the children's personal, social, moral and spiritual development.
2. An occasion when the group centres its thoughts and ideas on the same 'objects', 'ideals' or occasions.

AIMS

It is our aim:-

1. To fulfill the statements made at the beginning of this policy.
2. To provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God and to explore their own beliefs.
3. To ensure that the act of collective worship incorporates those aspects which we have listed as our working definition of the term 'worship' for the purpose of implementing the current statutory requirements for collective worship.
4. To recognise the importance of childrens' spiritual, moral, social and personal development. To try to ensure that the collective worship reflects and nurtures the whole ethos of the school and fosters and promotes such development in all areas of the curriculum and other school activities.

5. To help children identify with and contribute to the concern and interest of the school community.

6. In our collective worship we aim to encourage children to value individuals, similarities and differences, to develop a sense of community and respect for the world.

7. We will encourage participation and response.

We promote these values by considering the lives and experiences of people today and in the past, through story, drama, pictures, poems, songs and faith traditions.

We will celebrate special events, share stories from the Bible and other religious and secular sources and give the children time to reflect.

ORGANISATION

Collective worship will take place through the whole school and Key Stage groups as follows:-

Monday 10.20 - 10.40 am - whole school - Deputy Head

Tuesday 10:20 - 10:40 am - Key Stage Assemblies.

Wednesday 10:20 - 10:40 am - Whole school hymn practice - Deputy Head

Thursday 10:20 - 10:40 am - Whole school visiting clergy or KS2 manager.

Friday 9.10 am - Whole school - Class teacher/class

Whole school collective worship will normally be taken by the Head, Deputy Head, KS2 leader, or visiting clergy.

To make the act of collective worship as meaningful as possible, the following will be used or incorporated:-

music, songs, hymns, prayer, creative silence, literature, stories, readings, people from community, children's contributions, dance/drama, overhead projectors, visitors, audio visual etc.,

Assembly themes will follow the SEAL resource, with flexibility to incorporate national and international days/weeks.

September 2013
Reviewed September 2016
Next Review September 2017