



Collective Acts of Worship Policy

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

As a Church of England school our Collective worship is planned termly in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. There is a clear focus on Christian beliefs, theological concepts, values and festivals.

The Collective Worship Policy of Holsworthy C of E Primary School is consistent with the vision and values of the school as expressed on the school website. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

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 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 Holsworthy C of E 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 God
- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes

- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

The contribution of collective worship to aspects of the curriculum collective worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Holsworthy C of E 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. The school uses “Understanding Christianity” as the main structure for teaching Religious Education and this permeates the collective worship programme.

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 will 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. Worship provides the opportunity to understand and celebrate their world.

The Management of Collective Worship

The R.E. coordinator plans, monitors and evaluates acts of collective worship. Collective worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom. Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate. Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, RE and PHSE lessons. Every member of the teaching staff and regular visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at different points in the school year. The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils. Termly planning themes link to festivals in the local church year, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Systematic planning ensures that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are used in acts of collective worship. A variety of resources will also be used; the people leading the worship 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 prayer. The school has a patterning to collective worship which includes music on entry, the candle, the greeting, hymn or song, main theme, prayer and ending.

Withdrawal

Our collective worships will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as possible to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.

This policy was ratified by the Ethos Committee on Tuesday 17th April 2018