



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Hevingham and Marham Primary school Partnership

June 2022

Basic information

This policy covers our schools' approach to Collective Worship in all year groups.

It was produced by Sam Gibbons

It was informed by consultation with parents and carers, children and governors.

It will be reviewed as required.

This policy runs in conjunction with our RE curriculum, which can be found on the schools' website.

How will the policy be made available to parents

Parents will be informed about the policy through the school newsletter. The policy will be available to parents through the school website, under the policies heading.

Our schools' Vision

We will enable all our children to leave our schools with the skills necessary to be successful learners, confident and healthy individuals and responsible citizens. They will understand how diverse faiths and religious beliefs are, as well as people who have no belief, and how that influences their path through life.

We will enable all our children to have an in depth knowledge of the main faiths in the world, as well as humanism, and have strong religious literacy leading to the ability to compare, justify and investigate world views respectfully.

We will enable all our children to learn and demonstrate a wide reaching respect for diversity and those who are diverse, whether it be race, religion, gender, sexuality, disability, neuro-diversity, age or economic status.

This Collective Worship policy pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the Norfolk SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act and the 1996 Education Act, which states Collective worship should be “**wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character**”, and in recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are not recorded as Christian, our Collective worship is based on those aspects of a Christian worldview that are shared with other faiths, including Humanism.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship for our schools is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school, meet together to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all of our pupils, regardless of their faith, opportunities to engage in relevant and meaningful experiences which could constitute worship, and opportunities for spiritual, social, moral and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship

For our Schools:

Collective Worship contributes to the overarching vision we have for our pupils – becoming successful learners, confident and healthy individuals and responsible citizens. It is a time when the whole school community can:

- Share aims and values
- Celebrate achievement, diversity and special times
- Explore the wide world in which we all have a stake
- Develop a shared sense of community

For our Pupils:

Collective Worship also contributes to the holistic development of each pupil by providing opportunities to:

- Worship a God or Gods
- Consider what has value in our lives
- Consider and make moral choices with reasoning

- Explore and share their own worldview
- Develop their own world view
- Reflect on the aims of their ambition
- Consider the direction of their lives through choices they make
- Reflect and develop their understanding of what it means to be human
- Consider and respond to worries and wonders of our shared world

How Collective Worship fits within our Curriculum

Collective worship is distinct from curriculum time. However, in our schools we aim to teach in a cross curricular way, so many of the Collective Worship opportunities will incorporate learning from our themes and other teaching sequences. This will enhance both Collective Worship **and** the linked curriculum, as it allows us to broaden and deepen their understanding of topics with questions and reflection which necessitates thought, lingering over difficult issues, and one's own perspective.

The Management of Collective Worship

Class teachers are responsible for incorporating their specific Collective Worship within their teaching week. The RE lead is responsible for monitoring and providing guidance to teachers for those acts of collective worship.

Weekly Collective Worship will comprise five :

Own Class	Whole school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Votes for Schools activity • RE lesson follow up – how does this learning apply to your own world view? • Half term Word of Wonder – a specific word to focus thought and discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration Assembly (Friday) • Bi-weekly assembly led by Reverend Margaret (Monday) • Bi weekly Key stage singing assembly

Our Collective Worship will often be based on a stimulus – an image, a sound, a piece of music or an artefact. In order to elicit real and meaningful responses from children, a calm and productive environment is necessary – adults leading the Collective Worship will be responsible for setting the environment prior to it beginning. All teaching staff and regular/occasional visitors will be involved in leading Collective Worship throughout the year.

Any appropriate teaching and learning styles that teachers employ in the classroom to engage and motivate children are appropriate for Collective Worrship too. Teaching staff and visitors will decide how they will engage and interact with children, and what style of interactivity is appropriate for the particular focus of Collective Worship.

Each act of Collective Worship must include opportunities for the children to respond to the stimulus, both in terms of what it may mean in terms of Theology, Human and Social Sciences, or Philosophy, but also, and most important of all, their **own** response to the stimulus and how it shapes or impacts their world view.

Withdrawal

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child/ren from Collective Worship in school, and we would encourage any families to come and have a conversation with us at school before making a decision.