

Abbey Hill Primary and Nursery School



Whole School Collective Worship Policy

Adopted by the Governing Body: May 2017

Review May 2019



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Collective Worship Policy

Aims and Purposes

To provide opportunities for the children to understand:

- what is important in life and what it means to be human
- the ideas of right and wrong and to spend time reflecting on these
- the purpose of worship and prayer
- the importance of developing a sense of community spirit

Our collective worship is broadly Christian in character, reflecting our school community. We recognise that this is open to change and is sensitive to the beliefs and cultural and religious make up of our school. It takes place as part of our “assemblies which involve the giving of notices, the sharing of work and recognising the achievement of children”.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each daily assembly, which are held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. We also hold separate Key Stage 1 and 2 assemblies on Wednesdays that contain specific moments of collective worship. These assemblies follow themes such as British values, our world community and its festivals and the school’s Golden Rules. The children are invited to join in with a prayer at the end of collective worship by saying Amen at the end. Sometimes a candle is lit as a focus for the children’s thoughts and reflections.

The head teacher, deputy head or key stage 1 leader normally conduct collective worship, but once every half term leaders from a range of local churches and organisations lead assembly.

We take the themes of our key stage assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith and values. These often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar, British values and the SMSC curriculum.

Our Friday assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of children across key stages one and two. We give out certificates for literacy, numeracy and super presentation. A cup is awarded to a child in both Key Stage 1 and 2 for an act of kindness. This Achievement Assembly is an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school.

Class attendance percentages are also shared and the winning class receives

the basket of Top Dogs and ten minutes additional playtime for 100% attendance.

Parents are invited to this assembly every week as a way of sharing children's successes and promoting the importance of good attendance and the positive ethos of our school community.

Throughout the year parents are invited to special assemblies such as Harvest, Easter, Christmas and Y6 leavers' assembly. We attend St. Thomas's church in Kirkby in Ashfield twice a year to hold our Easter service and a Christmas carol service. Harvest festival focusses on a local homeless charity, Framework.

The chair of governors and members of the governing body attend our assemblies and collective worship when they are able and have taken an active part in our church services.

Equal Opportunities and Special Educational Needs

Collective worship is all inclusive and accessible to all children regardless of gender or educational needs.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assembly and collective worship times. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending collective worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The RE leader will meet with parents or carers who wish to act on their right for withdrawal and organise supervision for the children.