

Newbold and Tredington C of E Primary School



CREATING A CHANCE TO SHINE EVERYDAY

Collective Worship Policy
October 2018
To be reviewed October 2021

Collective Worship Policy and Guidelines

Rationale

At Newbold & Tredington C of E Primary School we recognise that the daily act of Collective Worship is distinct from Religious Education and that this is intended to promote the spiritual and moral development of all our children. Collective Worship should provide the opportunity to celebrate the diversity within our school community and the world in which we live.

Purpose, Aims and Objectives for our School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Newbold & Tredington 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
- ❖ contribute to a sense of unity and community for the school as a whole.

Values Education

We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought. (See appendix 1 - Our Values)

For the Pupils:

We intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- ❖ worship and explore their beliefs in a safe and caring environment
- ❖ consider spiritual and moral issues
- ❖ be involved, engaged and inspired
- ❖ develop their own spirituality
- ❖ reinforce positive attitudes
- ❖ have their views and beliefs heard
- ❖ reflect on what it means to be human
- ❖ enable children to explore their own beliefs whilst respecting those of others within a secure environment.

Objectives

To develop a sense of:

- ❖ Awe, wonder and mystery;
- ❖ Interdependence with the natural world;
- ❖ Self-worth and the value of others;
- ❖ To develop awareness that life involves choices of belief/attitude/behaviour and relationships and that there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life.

Principles of Collective worship

At Newbold & Tredington C of E Primary School all acts of worship are based on the principles that they should be:

- ❖ Inclusive;
- ❖ Educational;
- ❖ Spiritual
- ❖ Inspirational

- ❖ Engaging and contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children. It is intended to reflect the four main values of the Church of England: community, dignity, hope and wisdom. (https://cofefoundation.contentfiles.net/media/assets/file/Church_of_England_Vision_for_Education_-_2016_jdYA7EO.pdf)

Collective Worship should be inclusive. They should:

- ❖ Be pupil centred, related to pupils own experience and relevant to pupil concerns;
- ❖ Acknowledge diversity;
- ❖ Foster a sense of community;
- ❖ Involve pupils as active participants.

Collective Worship should be educational. They should:

- ❖ Be learning experiences;
- ❖ Related to pupils own experiences;
- ❖ Be planned and have a purpose;
- ❖ Relate to other curriculum activities;
- ❖ Provide the school with opportunities to reflect on the education it provides;
- ❖ Be consistent with the aims of the school

Meetings should be spiritual. They should:

- ❖ have time to be still and reflect; be a special time – conducive to worship;
- ❖ allow children to feel calm, relaxed and secure;
- ❖ include a variety of words, music and images;
- ❖ include a time for reflection;
- ❖ provide an opportunity for the children to take part in an act of worship.

We invite parents to our Achievement Assembly on a Friday and we encourage them to attend. This promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way home and the school work together to celebrate the achievements of our children.

'In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.'
(ERA 1988, Education Act 1993)

In line with the 1988 Education Reform act, which states that Collective Worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However we will always conduct our collective worships in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all the members of our school.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold Collective Worship that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in our school and the wider community.

Organisation

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school either as a whole school or in classes, year groups or Key Stages.

A half termly theme which promotes spiritual, cultural and moral development is presented. They will include examples from various religious cultures and will be linked to:

- ❖ Religious events;
- ❖ Special Days;
- ❖ Special events in the life of the school;
- ❖ Values important to the school community

They are also linked to the calendar of Religious Festivals for the World's major religions for the year.

Resources to support the delivery of Collective Worship are stored in the hall.

The theme will be developed throughout the half term during acts of Collective worship and also in class. Where appropriate, outside speakers will be invited into school to lead Collective Worship.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate manner, asking them to be quiet and thoughtful. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and candles/artefacts that act as a focal point for the attention of the children. Whenever possible the creative arts will be used to enhance the delivery of Collective Worship.

Any issues arising from Collective Worship will be responded to with compassion and sensitivity. Our Collective Worship will reflect the achievements and learning of the children. Where appropriate we will encourage the children to participate in Collective Worship by showing their work to the other children and raising issues they may have discussed in class. Collective Worship offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward our children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and achievements are recognised. Newbold & Tredington C of E Primary School is a successful school and we shall celebrate the success of all children.

	Newbold Site	Tredington Site
Monday	Clergy	Clergy and Storyteller
Tuesday	Ruby Class	Sapphire, Emerald and Amber (NT/RS)
Wednesday	Ruby Class	Sapphire, Emerald and Amber (CH)
Thursday	Ruby Class	Sapphire, Emerald and Amber (MD)
Friday	Achievement Assembly - Head	

Right of Withdrawal

Collective Worship is regarded as an essential part of the development of the whole child and as such is recognised by staff and governors as an important part of daily learning.

We expect all children to attend meetings. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious 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 Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

Health and Safety

When large numbers of children are in the hall then it is important that all exits are clear and not blocked by furniture. Children moving from the hall should do so under supervision and should walk quietly in class lines.

Lit candles should be kept at a safe distance from the pupils.

If the fire alarm rings then children should go out by the nearest exit into the playground with the teachers who are supervising assembly. No one should return to their classroom first.

Equal Opportunities

Children's entitlement to Acts of Collective Worship should not be affected by gender, culture, race or special needs. It is important that there are no barriers to this equality of opportunity.

Monitoring and Review

It is the role of a named school governor with responsibility for Collective Worship to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship. The governor concerned liaises with the subject leader before reporting to the governors on Collective Worship.

Review date

This policy was adopted by Governors in October 2018 and will be reviewed either as necessary or every three years.