



FULMER INFANT SCHOOL
NURTURING AND INSPIRING SUCCESS IN EVERY CHILD

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

INTENT

The collective worship policy at Fulmer Infant School pays due regard to statutory requirements and has taken account of the guidance offered by the local authority through its SACRE. Collective worship is a valued and valuable part of school life and is taken seriously because it shapes our approach to others and to what we do in school.

Aims of collective worship

Collective worship in Fulmer Infant School aims to provide the opportunity for pupils and staff to:

- Celebrate together eg festivals, school values, individual achievements
- Build a sense of identity/foster corporate identity
- Develop a reflective approach to living
- Look beyond the physical, material and measurable
- Reflect on human values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- Feel safe and affirmed in doing any of the above

Statutory requirements

By law, Collective worship must:

- Take place for every child not withdrawn by their parents (post 16 students can withdraw themselves) every day
- Be mainly of a broadly Christian character
- Take account of the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils

This means that collective worship should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination. Not every act of collective worship needs to comply with this, provided that, taking any school term as a whole, most such acts which take place in the school do comply.

IMPLEMENTATION

Collective worship time is distinct from the curriculum time given to any subject including religious education. However, in Fulmer Infant School, we aim to enable collective worship and aspects of children's classroom learning to be mutually supportive.

Collective worship provides opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in line with school policy. To achieve this it addresses a wide variety of themes and topics, uses diverse stimuli and resources and provides pupils with opportunities to 'respond' at their own level.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective worship takes place in a variety of groupings in the school hall or a classroom at the end of the school day.

Leadership

Every teacher and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Worship

The content of all acts of collective worship is considered carefully to ensure relevance and suitability for all ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils. Visitors are welcome to lead collective worship and are given guidance. Leaders from faiths within the area help us to increase pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these faiths.

Withdrawal

Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that collective worship will be a valuable and values experience for all members of our school community whatever their backgrounds and beliefs. It is invitational and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any acts of worship and staff are also freed to withdraw from involvement in this aspect of school life. We request that those who wish to exercise this right inform the Co- Headteachers in writing so that school records are accurate. We also appreciate opportunities to speak with parents and staff who have concerns about collective worship, always

keen to develop our understanding of sensitivities and to overcome difficulties where possible, Those pupils who are withdrawn from worship are cared for by a member of the school's staff.

IMPACT

Children celebrate the awe and wonder of our world and their Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural values are developed.