

Collective Worship Policy 2015

Aims:

Collective worship aims to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes. (*Religious Education and Collective Worship 1/94*)

The overall aims for Worship at Mount Pleasant are:

- To worship God
- To reflect on values that are broadly Christian in nature and on children's own beliefs
- To develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- To consider spiritual and moral issues
- To respond to the worship offered

Statutory Duties/Responsibilities of Schools

All registered children in maintained schools are expected to take part in a daily collective worship (except those who have been withdrawn by their parents).

The Headteacher must ensure that a daily act of collective worship is delivered.

Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils.

Organisation of Collective Worship

The timing and organisation of daily collective worship can be flexible. It need not be held at the start of the school day. There can be a single act of worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age groups or in different school groups.

Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. Although they may take place as part of the same gathering, the difference between the two should be clear. Collective worship can, nevertheless, be related to the day to day life, aspirations and concerns of the school.

'Taking part' in collective worship implies more than simply passive attendance. It follows that an act of collective worship should be capable of eliciting a response from pupils, even though on a particular occasion some of the pupils may not feel able to identify with the act of worship.

Exceptions and Special Arrangements

'If the parent of a pupil requests that he/she may be wholly or partly excused-

- a) from receiving religious education given in the school in accordance with the school's basic curriculum,
- b) from attendance at religious worship in the school, or
- c) both from receiving such education and from such attendance,

the pupil shall be excused until the request is withdrawn.'

(School Standards and Framework Act 1998 section 71)

In these circumstances, a discussion will take place with the Headteacher and the parent(s) of the child in order to discuss provision for the child either within school or at another setting, as appropriate.

GUIDELINES:

As we are working to become a, "Rights Respecting School", listed in brackets; we have incorporated the following themes into our Collective Worship.

Dates	Themes
Autumn	
Week 1	Respect (All children have rights which should be respected)
Week 2	Truth and Honesty (Yom Kippur)
Week 3	Responsibility (Adults have a responsibility to support their child's education)
Week 4	Diversity (Articles 1 & 2; All children have a right to be treated equally)
Week 5	Inquisitiveness (Article 13; The right to have freedom of expression) (Eid ul-Fitr)
Week 6	Right and Wrong (The right to not be punished in a cruel or harmful way) (Harvest)
Week 7	Democracy (respecting the views of the child and their ability to say what they think)
Week 8	Traditions/British Values (Diwali) (Remembrance Day)
Week 9	Anti-Bullying and Conflict (The right to be safe in any environment)
Week 10	Creativity: My favourite musician (The right to relax and play)
Week 11	Improving our health (St Andrew's Day 17th Nov)
Week 12	Forgiveness/love (The right to live with people who care for you)
Week 13	Hope (The right to choose your own beliefs and religion)
Week 14	The Nativity Story/Christmas (Advent)
Spring	
Week 1	Perseverance (Epiphany)
Week 2	Individuality (The right to a legal name, nationality and identity)
Week 3	Creativity: My favourite artist (the right to relax and play and the right to express myself)
Week 4	Dilemmas (The right to say what you think and have your views taken seriously)
Week 5	Dignity and Pride (Chinese New Year) (Shrove Tues, Ash Wed)
Week 6	Sacrifice (St Davis's day 1st March) (Holi spring festival)
Week 7	Creativity: My favourite sports person/dancer (the right to express myself)
Week 8	Caring (St Patrick's day 17th March) (Mother's day)
Week 9	Determination
Week 10	Easter
Week 11	Internet Safety Week (the right to be and feel safe)
Summer	
Week 1	Being Prepared
Week 2	Rising to the challenge (St George's day)
Week 3	Community/Citizenship (the right to join in a wide range of cultural activities) (Wesak)
Week 4	Compassion (International Red Cross Day)
Week 5	Responsibility/Confidence
Week 6	Ambitions (the right to high quality education)
Week 7	Safety/Following Rules (the right to be protected from things that can harm you)
Week 8	Pollution/Saving the World (the right to live peacefully and protect the environment)
Week 9	Rich World/Poor World
Week 10	Arts Week and Talents (The right to develop your talents and abilities)
Week 11	Resolving differences
Week 12	Changes

Themes may also follow news items eg natural disasters or historical events etc.
Themes may also include pupils hearing stories about inspirational people; Ghandi, Mother Teresa, Rosa Parkes, Grace Darling etc.

Delivery of Collective Worship

At Mount Pleasant we use the following structure on a weekly basis for assemblies/collective worship.

Monday	assembly (Headteacher)
Tuesday	assembly (Teachers on rota)
Wednesday	Hymn Practice + discussion around the meaning of the hymns sung.
Thursday	assembly (Teachers on rota)
Friday	collective worship in classroom

Exceptions/additions

Autumn Term	Remembrance Day Service (Y6) Traditional Nativity performance for Foundation and KS1 Harvest Service (Y2) Carol concert in local church for KS2
Spring Term	Class assemblies for Years 1, 3 and 4 Class presentation - Mother's Day Easter Service
Summer Term	Class assemblies for Years 2 and End of year performance for Year 6 Class assembly Year 5

As a school we also invite local church representatives to lead or join in our collective worship.

Date the Policy was approved by Governors: - September 2015

Date for review: September 2019

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