



Longford
C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

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Indicate whether the document is for public access or internal access only <i>(Strikethrough text, as appropriate)</i>	Public Access – PDF copy to be posted on School-website Internal Access Only – copy to be held on School PC <i>A back-up copy of all Policies is retained by the Clerk to the Longford Board of Governors</i>
Indicate which legislation or statutory guidance document requires this Policy	
Summary/Description:	
This document gives Longford Primary School the guidance to ensure that collective worship, taking account of the age, aptitude and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents.	

Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

Longford is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School. As such it has a Trust Deed which states that worship should be in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England.

In accordance with legal requirements (Schools Standards & Framework Act 1988) an act of collective worship, taking account of the age, aptitude and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents. The school expects that withdrawal will only be made following discussions with the head teacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

Rationale

Our ethos statement says:

The school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

In line with our ethos statement, the overall content of collective worship is of a mainly Christian character, based on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church.

Because we aim for acts of worship to include all pupils, there is an expectation that all pupils will be present. Careful planning and preparation ensure that there are clear learning intentions. Collective worship is first and foremost for the educational benefit of pupils and allows for a variety of response, according to their background – we are committed to respect the integrity of different faith traditions. However, we are inspired by the words from the diocese which invite us “to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity.” The school will also offer the opportunity to explore, reflect upon and respond to the mystery and meaning of the Christian faith.

General aims

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to encourage a sense of awe and wonder to the world around them
- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God collectively
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- to reinforce positive attitudes which reflect our Christian ethos
- to develop a sense of community, while valuing our differences

Procedures

Organisation of Collective Worship: the head teacher, other members of staff, the vicar and Lay representatives from the Chalke Valley Churches normally conduct collective worship, but sometimes other representatives of local religious groups help. We encourage parents to our weekly celebration worship where children have the opportunity to show their work, and when we can acknowledge and reward them for their achievements and behaviour both in and out of school.

Planning

We plan our acts of collective worship by theme. The overall content of collective worship is of a mainly Christian character, including the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, and the relevance on the culture of our country, history, and our place in the world. Emphasis is given to major Christian festivals. A variety of formats are used (eg story telling, illustrations, drama, a celebration of their achievements), and generally children participate as and when appropriate. Each act of worship starts with music and the lighting of a candle and there are opportunities for silence, reflection and singing. Sometimes children plan and lead the collective worships and services themselves. We have a Collective Worship Booklet, which outlines the main features of collective worship at Longford Primary.

Monitoring and Reviewing

It is the role of the named school governor with responsibility for religious education and collective worship to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. The governor concerned liaises with the head teacher before reporting to the governors on religious education and collective worship.