



**Maidstone-Causton
Federation**

Collective Worship Policy

Adoption/ Review	Committee	Author	Lead Person	Review Date
2010	Curriculum	Julie Lawrence	Headteacher	2013
2013	Curriculum	Lizzie Girling	Head of School	2016
2016	Learning and Achievement	Lizzie Girling	Head of School	Oct 2019

Collective Worship

The Education Reform Act 1988 states that there must be a daily act of collective worship which can take place at any time during the school day. This worship can be organised for a whole school together or for separate groups of children. Taking each term as a whole, most acts of collective worship must reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief. They must not be denominational. An act of collective worship which is 'broadly Christian' need not contain only Christian material. All collective worship must be appropriate for the age, aptitude and background of the children. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship. Teachers have the right not to participate in the acts of collective worship; but they may be required to attend in a supervisory capacity.

What is Collective Worship?

Collective worship in school is not the same as collective worship in church (corporate worship) which is normally intended for a united body of believers. As school is not a religious community, collective worship is about bringing children together for some kind of shared experience. Worship may or may not take place, depending on the individual child. A planned period of reflection allows for the opportunity for worship to take place.

Aims

The aim of collective worship is to create an environment where worship can take place. The opportunity should be provided to allow children to respond in a variety of ways. Each of which is appropriate to the individual.

Objectives

1. To provide an opportunity to promote and develop the school ethos, values, attitudes, beliefs, relationships, aspirations, and achievements and thereby make a contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the children.
2. To develop an atmosphere that provides an opportunity for quiet reflection.
3. To involve the children, allowing individuals to contribute ideas and comments.
4. To develop a sense of community, within the school, locally, nationally and globally by fostering an atmosphere of love, security and kindness.
5. To provide an opportunity to appreciate diversity, using stories and celebrations from other religions
6. To provide time and opportunity for thanksgiving and to develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around them.

Organisation

School assemblies are led by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and other Senior Teachers using a range of themes following the SEAL and PHSE schemes of work. Festivals and celebrations from a variety of faiths are recognised and shared. Children are expected

to come in to the school hall quietly. Opportunities for singing are ready on entry to the hall and children and staff join in. All our assemblies are child centred, involving children as participants and are:

- Planned to meet the needs of the children in our school
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm pupils and teachers own life stances , whether religious or not
- quality learning experiences related to pupils' own experiences
- linked where appropriate to other curricular activities

Aimed at a range of educational and personal achievements

Special Assemblies

Visitors are encouraged and welcomed onto school to talk to the children. The Salvation Army perform a Christmas concert each year. Assembly schedules are flexible to allow the school to recognise important events as they occur and share information with children.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to choose for their children not to attend assemblies. If a parent is considering exercising this right in the first instance he or she should make an appointment to see the Headteacher

Resources

There is an interactive white board and laptop in the hall for use in assemblies. SEAL/PHSE resources are located in the copy room for communal use.

Purchased Go Givers to support PSHE and inclusion of assemblies.

Picture It resources for assembly every fortnight