



## **Worlebury St Paul's Church of England Voluntary Primary School.**

### **Policy for Collective Worship**

This policy should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and operated within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England School.

This policy confirms the school's commitment to providing opportunities for children to participate in shared experiences of prayer, praise, thanksgiving and celebration in accordance with the requirements of the trust deeds of the school and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education.

#### **1. Aims and expectations**

- to provide the opportunity for pupils and adults to Worship God
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- to encourage participation and response
- to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes
- to express love, tolerance and respect for others
- to reflect the Christian principles and values on which the school is based
- to encourage the children's natural sense of wonder of God's creation and to develop their qualities of awe, wonder, and empathy.

#### **2. Guidelines**

Organisation:

MONDAY	9:00 am	Worship through Song
TUESDAY FS & KS1	9:00am	Staff led worship
TUESDAY KS 2	1:00pm	Staff led worship
WEDNESDAY	9:00am	Staff led Worship
THURSDAY	9:00am	Family Worship
FRIDAY	9:00 am	Visitor /staff led worship

These Acts of Collective Worship will be Christian in character, reflecting Christian belief. The Act of Worship will follow a recognisable format and range from 15 to 30 minutes.

- It will start with a moment of quiet/simple invitational exchange such as 'The Lord be with you "with the response "and also with you". The candle will be lit and candle song may also be used

- There will be one or more hymns or songs which, whenever possible will relate to the theme of the worship
- There will be a quiet time for prayer, reflection, meditation, stillness or silence
- The worship will have a clear focus and will often involve pupil participation
- Elements used in worship may include music, listening to stories, Bible readings, mime, drama, artefacts, posters or audio visual material
- The Lord's Prayer and other memorable Christian prayers will be used
- Notices and announcements will be clearly separated from the act of worship at either the beginning or end of the service.
- Suitable music may be played before and after the Act of Worship to encourage children to sit quietly and to listen

As a focal point we use a table draped with a coloured cloth relating to the liturgical season. On this is a cross, a Bible or any other suitable item (e.g. candle, flowers or some other item, depending on the theme)

- An Agape service is held in the school hall three times a year.
- The school day ends with class prayers and grace is said by all before lunch
- Services are held in St. Paul's Church Kewstoke and St Peter's Church Milton to celebrate major Christian festivals and special school events which parents/carers/members of the local and wider community may be invited to attend.
- Every child will take part in Collective Worship unless withdrawn by his/her parent or guardian (requests for withdrawal must be in writing)
- An evaluation will be kept of all Acts of Worship

### **3. Planning**

A thematic approach to planning ensures that the children have opportunities to

- Explore bible narratives and application of Christian teachings to daily life
- Celebrate the major Christian festivals
- Experience /consider the view points of other world faiths
- Explore and celebrate the world's rich diversity of cultures
- Discuss/ consider moral and social issues
- Mark and understand the impact of significant events in their lives

Currently, planning covers a full academic year using this approach and is based upon Social Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) The school has a three year rolling programme which was developed by staff. We recognise the importance of quiet reflection for spiritual and emotional well-being and aim to provide quality opportunities for reflection during our daily act of collective worship.

#### 4. Resources

- Hymn books are kept in the music cupboard and worship books in hall
- CDs and tapes are kept in CD rack next to music cupboard
- Artefacts for use in worship are stored centrally

It is our aim that Collective Worship is seen as a time when teachers and pupils may express joy and thankfulness, share concerns and experiences and affirm the beliefs and values of our school community and the Church of England of which we are all part.

This policy will be reviewed according to the Policy cycle.

Signed: Felicity Williamson

Date : 07.05.14

Equality Impact Assessment Review : May 2014