

Gretton Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

1. Rationale

At Gretton we believe that collective worship makes a significant contribution to the ethos of the school by reinforcing and reflecting the values that bind the school community together. Collective worship should inspire and give direction and purpose during the school day, and celebrate achievement at the end of the school week.

We also believe that collective worship is an important opportunity to model and promote fundamental British Values including respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

It reinforces learning in other areas of the curriculum, for example: moral and social development in PSHCE lessons, and multi-faith learning in R.E. Other areas of the curriculum also contribute to our worship, for example music and drama.

2. Definitions

N/A

3. Aim

Statutory guidance requires that collective worship should

- provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- encourage participation and response, either through active involvement in the presentation or through listening and joining in with the worship offered
- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on the children's own beliefs
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values within the school

4. Objectives

We believe that a good act of worship should include the following:

- a clear focus on important issues or concepts such as peace, forgiveness, honesty
- materials and approaches that connect with the children (heart and mind)
- space for reflection, giving time for children to think about the issues raised and allowing those who wish to, to pray
- a feeling of a special time shared together
- plenty of participation both active and passive
- as wide a variety of approaches as possible (drama, dance, music, story, silence)

- a variety of leaders, including staff and visitors from outside the school community
- a broadly Christian focus over the course of each term

5. Strategies and procedures

- Staff have a timetable which informs them of themes and leadership for each act of collective worship
- Local clergy visit weekly.
- Each class leads a termly assembly presentation which parents are invited to attend.
- We invite outside speakers to inform and inspire pupils about particular issues and festivals.
- We introduce new songs and hymns at occasional singing assemblies.
- Books are available as a resource and are kept in the staffroom.

6. Roles

6.1 Role of Co-ordinator

Jackie Kelly is responsible for planning and monitoring collective worship.

6.2 Role of parents

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from collective worship after writing to the Headteacher (Education Reform Act 1988)

7. Review period and date of next review

Our policy is reviewed annually when its implementation and effectiveness is evaluated.

The next review is due in Autumn 2018