

The Meadows Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



At our school we believe that Collective Worship should:

- give expression to, reaffirm and practice the values of the school community.
- strengthen and support the school community and individual members.
- provide an experience that promotes the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of pupils.
- introduce children to the concept of worship.
- provide an opportunity for personal and shared reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.
- be of a broadly Christian nature.
- celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- foster a respect for self and engender a concern for the needs of others.

In particular, our school ethos and the following school aims are fulfilled/achieved through the act of collective worship:

Our purpose is to create a happy, secure learning environment in which everyone can achieve.

We strive to develop the whole child by:

- **Nurturing talent**
- **Developing a love for learning**
- **Promoting mutual respect**
- **Encouraging a sense of responsibility for our world**

School Aims include:

- ***To foster and promote the development of children's spiritual, moral, cultural and social awareness.***
- ***To develop positive self esteem and self confidence raising aspirations for the future.***
- ***To create an environment where each member of the school community shows respect for others and is valued as an individual.***
- ***To work as a team to celebrate and support achievement taking due consideration of the views of those involved in the life of the school.***

All pupils take part in a daily act of collective worship.

- A single act of worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age groups are timetabled each day. This may take place in a shared space, such as the school hall, or in classrooms. Video presentations or Zoom calls are used for assemblies in smaller groups, particularly when larger gatherings are not possible.
- Collective Worship is usually held during the morning, but can be held at other times depending on the school calendar.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussions with the headteacher.
- The school has a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. However, no additional work is set or followed in this time.
- All teachers, including the headteacher, have the right to withdraw from an act of collective worship, but the headteacher maintains statutory accountability.

Content

Collective Worship organised by the school will be of a “wholly” or broadly Christian in character and not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination. By ‘broadly Christian’ in this school we mean:

- The assembly will focus on Christian values and behaviours.
- It may contain some elements which accord special status to Jesus Christ, his teaching and actions, e.g. The Sermon on the Mount, miracles of healing and the parables. It may also feature stories taken from the wider context of the Bible. and the belief that in the person and example of Jesus, God can be seen in a unique way.
- It may include a focus on the Christian belief that all Christians are called to continue in Jesus’ work of love and compassion for their fellow human beings –through the exploration of key concepts – love, trust, forgiveness, mercy, humility, courage and integrity, respect for life, value of an individual, justice, cooperation and service, honesty and truthfulness.
- It may include a story, song and/or music for listening, a reflection time, thinking time or a prayer, which children are invited to follow if they choose to do so.

Acts of worship take into account pupils’ ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds. Collective Worship is first and foremost for the educational and spiritual benefit of pupils. It is a shared activity which allows a variety of responses. It is an inclusive activity which builds links with the broad dimensions of the curriculum.

Structure

- Assembly themes are based on the school values, and one value each month is the focus for assemblies. They may also be based around PSHE issues, festivals and celebrations.

January	Positivity
February	Friendship
March	Peace
April	Compassion
May	Respect
June	Kindness
July	Honesty
September	Understanding and tolerance
October	Resilience
November	Determination
December	Imagination

- 15 minutes is allocated for a daily act of collective worship. Children are encouraged to enter the space calmly and music is often used to set the scene and create a peaceful atmosphere.
- Teaching staff take assemblies. Representatives from a local faith-based children's charity, the Joy Foundation, lead one assembly per week. Reflection times provided by iSingPop are also used. Participation by children is encouraged.

Monitoring

- In this school Collective Worship will be monitored by the subject leader and senior leadership team.
- A monitoring discussion may include a review of content and methodology, links to the wider curriculum, observation of practice and subsequent feedback and pupil interviews.

Date	Adopted / Reviewed	Signed
June 2008		
March 2011		
April 2015		
December 2020		