



Mary Dean's CE Primary School

Policy for Collective worship

Rationale:

It was Mary Dean's intention to run this school along Church of England lines. As a Voluntary Controlled School the content of Acts of Worship will be wholly Christian. School-based worship is not to evangelise but to offer what Christians believe.

The Board of Governors of the school believe that Collective Worship has an important part to play in the life of the school and contributes to the educational, emotional, social and spiritual development of the children.

Purpose

Worship is about what people feel about God and what difference it makes to the way people relate to God and to each other. Collective Worship seeks to involve all children and will recognise the variety of backgrounds and faiths from which they come.

All children should be encouraged to talk about and discuss their views in an atmosphere of security and respect for all.

Guidelines

The school has an RE Leader (Mrs Samantha Ketley) who works with the Head Teacher and the Foundation Governors to ensure the requirements of this policy are delivered.

This policy is drawn up and reviewed by a range of staff, led by the RE Leader, and recommended to the Board of Governors for adoption.

A balanced programme for Worship based on our Core Values of Thankfulness, Courage, Truthfulness, Responsibility, Forgiveness and Friendship and underpinned by the SACRE curriculum is drawn up by the RE Leader and delivered by all teaching staff as appropriate.

Topical and spontaneous worship involving current affairs or events within school will be included as appropriate.

The programme of worship will be evaluated and recorded regularly.

Children will have time for prayer or silent reflection during each act of collective worship.

Worship will take place daily as per the programme set out below.

Monday	Whole school Worship led by the Head Teacher
Tuesday	In-Class Assembly on week's focus theme
Wednesday	KS2 Assembly, KS1 and Foundation in-class assembly. Planned Open the Book assemblies for the whole school
Thursday	Whole School singing practice and collective worship Separate KS1 + Foundation Stage celebration assembly led by teaching staff
Friday	Whole school Worship led by the Head Teacher or a class assembly

Carefully selected visitors and groups will be invited to take part in or lead assemblies and worship. All acts of worship remain under the control of the teaching staff.

Class assemblies or class-led worship should be seen as an opportunity to invite parents to share in a meaningful event with a religious or moral theme.

Pupils will be encouraged to lead prayer in their own classes or within larger assemblies as appropriate.

Strategy

Collective Worship will be organised in such a way that it is accessible to all members of the school community and all will be made welcome.

Every effort will be made to ensure that an atmosphere conducive to worship will be created. This can be done via stimuli including objects, pictures, music or personal presentation.

Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

Staff have the right to withdraw themselves from collective worship.

Since this is a church school however, worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education.

Review and evaluation

Children will evaluate and review acts of worship regularly and their views will be responded to by staff responsible for assemblies and their organisation.

This policy and its impact will be evaluated regularly by the Church Ethos Group and reviewed on a bi-annual basis.