

**Gillamoor C of E VC Primary School**  
**Collective Worship Policy 2019**  
**Where God's Love is sown, grown and taken home.**

### **Introduction**

It is a statutory duty of the school (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) to provide daily collective worship for registered pupils, apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents.

### **Withdrawal of pupils**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship, but must make their wishes clear by informing the headteacher.

Collective worship mainly Christian and is intended to be meaningful and relevant for all pupils, for those with a faith background and for those with none, and it is, therefore, hoped that few parents will feel that they have to remove their child from collective worship.

If families wish to withdraw their children from worship, the headteacher is not responsible for providing alternative worship, but will ensure that these children have adequate supervision.

### **Aim**

The aim of collective worship is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- learn about and worship God
- cultivate emotional and spiritual growth and respect for others in accordance with our Christian values
- reinforce and reflect upon the Christian values and shared vision of the school
- develop a sense of community
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- reflect a concern for individual needs through prayers for individuals and opportunity for personal reflection
- celebrates the achievements of the whole school, groups and individuals across all areas of the curriculum and school life
- Reflects the seasonal rhythm of the Christian year

Through collective worship, the children are to be made aware of what it means to be part of a community under God that is committed to serving and caring for each other and for our world.

Pupils will be encouraged to consider issues for themselves, reflect upon and learn from their own experiences and the experiences of others, and to develop a sense of wonder, awe and mystery for the world of which they are part.

Collective worship will also affirm the equality of each individual in God's sight, whatever their gender, ethnicity, or physical or mental ability.

Every child in the school should derive some benefit from collective worship whatever their academic ability. The worship should be appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests, and incorporate various media e.g. story, song, poetry, drama, etc. The opportunities to use material produced by the children in their classroom studies and for pupil participation should be exploited as much as possible.

## **Arrangements**

Daily Collective worship is provided within a daily assembly that takes place at 3pm in the chapel.

Collective worship is usually be led by staff. Rev Mark leads worship at least once a half term. Members of our circle of friends and clergy from local churches visit on a termly basis. All worship and assemblies seek to involve pupils through questioning and discussion and active participation where possible.

The usual format of collective worship

- starts with the welcome and the candle being lit.
- includes one or more songs,
- a story read or a theme is discussed
- followed by time for reflection and prayers relating to the story/ theme are shared.
- the candle is extinguished to show the end of Worship, although the Assembly may continue when required.

The general shape of worship is

- gathering
- listening
- reflecting
- thanksgiving

Services will be held in St Aidan's Church half termly, as well as Harvest, Christmas, Easter and a leaver's service.

Clergy from Church of England and other local Christian churches are part of our wide circle of friends who regularly lead assemblies.

Collective worship will be planned on a termly basis to reflect the Christian calendar but will also respond to events of international, national or local significance. The SEAL program (social and emotional aspects of learning) will also be incorporated into the assembly plans as required.

In addition to collective worship, the children say grace before lunch and a prayer at the end of the day.

## **Evaluation and review**

This policy will be reviewed bi - annually and its implementation and effectiveness assessed. Evaluation of the effectiveness of collective worship will include:

- Observation of the children's attentiveness and level of interest
- Classroom feedback and pupil discussions with Members of the Community and Christian Values committee.
- Observation of the implementation of the principles taught into practice within the school

## **Signed A Tweddle, staff and CCVC**

**Date November 2014**

Reviewed November 2016

Reviewed July 2019

Next review July 2021