



Crockerne C of E Primary School



<b>Name of Policy:</b>	<b>Collective Worship</b>
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Ethos</b>
<b>Date Ratified:</b>	<b>April 17</b>
<b>Next Review:</b>	<b>April 18</b>
<b>Chair of Governors Signature:</b>	
<b>Headteacher Signature:</b>	



# Collective Worship Policy

All children will take part in a daily act of collective worship which is most often broadly Christian in character, i.e. reflecting the traditions of Christian beliefs in keeping with the terms of the 1996 Education Act and the School's Trust Deed

## 1. Rationale

- To develop a sense of the school as a community within a wider community;
- To provide a quality shared experience, creating an atmosphere where reflection and sharing of ideas, values, experiences and understanding is encouraged;
- To allow children to have opportunities to reflect upon their own place in the world;
- To foster relationships with local faith groups – particularly local church denominations.

## 2. Aims and Objectives

- To provide the children with a separate part of the day when they can reflect on collective expressions of joy and sadness, thankfulness, need and to share concerns and experiences;
- To foster a school ethos of respect for others, and of caring and sharing;
- To introduce and foster spiritual awareness;
- To develop an increasing awareness of the Christian calendar, and other significant festivals from other major faiths;
- To fulfil the legal requirements.

## 3. Guidelines

Collective worship takes place following a weekly timetable:

<b>Monday</b> Whole school collective worship led by Headteacher.
<b>Tuesday</b> Class Collective Worship
<b>Wednesday</b> Key Stage Collective Worship
<b>Thursday</b> Singing, either Key Stage or whole school Or visitor
<b>Friday</b> Whole School Collective Worship Or Phase collective worship celebrating learning.

- At the start of each school year, collective worship will focus on what is special about Crockerne Primary School and break down the mission statement.
- Each term will have a new theme for collective worship, a value focus, SEAL focus and wider experience – a programme is written by the Co Headteacher. At the start of each term, the Monday Headteacher collective worship will introduce the theme for the term from the SEAL scheme of work. The Friday collective worship will introduce the values and wider themes.
- Candles will be lit during assemblies to signify a special time, to help focus attention and to reinforce the candle as a symbol of Jesus being the light of the world in Christian belief.

- Other Christian symbols, such as a fish and a cross, are displayed on the altars in both halls, which help to signify that this is a Church of England school.
- Collective worship will include at different times, singing, music, a time for reflection, discussion and prayer. The school prayer and Lord's Prayer are used regularly and other prayers are used as appropriate.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship, after consultation with the Headteacher.
- Visitor assemblies are very much appreciated, valued and welcomed. These regularly include assemblies from ministers from the local churches in the village.
- Celebration collective worship is an opportunity for the whole school to celebrate learning in the term as well as provide opportunities for reflection.
- High standards of respectful behaviour are expected during times of collective worship. Children are expected to enter and leave a collective worship time in a sensible and respectful manner; calm music will be played to facilitate this.
- When prayers are used in collective worship, they will be worded so as to be understandable to the ages of the children present. Children will be invited to make the prayer their own, or simply keep it as a thought. If they wish to, children can respond to a prayer with Amen and will understand that this means 'I agree'.
- Prayers used should not alienate children or adults from differing denominations or faiths. Children are sometimes invited to join a member of staff to lead whole school prayer time.
- There is an expectation that all staff will be present during whole school Collective worship.
- Children could be encouraged to be involved in collective worship by reading prayers, acting, singing and general participation.

#### **4. Guidelines for Visitors**

- We try to enhance our programme of Collective Worship through the participation of visiting speakers from a range of different backgrounds. Some may be representatives of charitable concerns, or environmental groups. Visitors from various professions or interest groups, as well as those from different cultures and of different religious affiliations, are welcomed.
- Visiting speakers can provide pupils with a fresh voice and possibly a fresh perspective on issues relevant to the pupils' lives, as well as their spiritual and moral development. Your support is greatly appreciated.
- Collective Worship takes place in the School hall. Sometimes all the children, from four years old to eleven years old, will participate together. On other occasions Foundation stage and Key Stage 1 (4 - 7 years) will have separate Collective Worship from Key Stage 2 (7-11 years). Please arrange with us in advance which pupils you would like to benefit from your worship.
- In recognition of the School's Church of England foundation, we have a small altar with a cross and a candle at the front of the hall.
- Music will be playing (you may bring your own CD if you want something particular). Children will walk in silently with their teachers. They will sit on the floor in rows facing the front (youngest at the front, oldest at the back). They will listen to the music until all are present and the Collective Worship can begin.
- At the end of the Collective Worship, a pupil will start the music; children will stand and file out in silence, as directed by the member of staff.
- The whole act of Collective Worship should last for approximately 20 minutes.
- It is expected that the School staff will sit in the hall with you and the pupils.

#### **5. Monitoring**

It is important that Collective Worship is monitored and evaluated to ensure that they are of a high standard and of relevance.  
Foundation Governors and staff will evaluate the impact and appropriateness for pupils through pupil conferencing, on regular occasions.