



Collective Worship Policy

At Beechcroft Infants School we provide a daily act of worship for all registered pupils as required by law (Education Reform Act 1988). The acts of worship are 'wholly or mainly of a broad Christian nature.' They reflect the 'broad traditions of Christian belief but are non-denominational'. (This policy reflects how the school normally operates).

Responsibility for arranging Collective Worship in our school rests with the Headteacher (after consultation with the Governing Body).

By broadly Christian we mean:

- Containing some elements which accord special status to Jesus Christ, his teaching and actions.
- Sharing with children Christian beliefs that all Christians should show love and compassion for their fellow human beings – through love, trust, forgiveness, mercy, humility, courage and integrity, respect for life, value of an individual, justice, co-operation and service, honesty and truthfulness.

Acts of worship should take into account pupils' ages and aptitudes. The headteacher and governors may apply for a determination from SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education) if there is a large number of pupils in the school which are from non-Christian families.

At Beechcroft Infant 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 the pupils.
- 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.

Our aims are:

- That Collective Worship should be appropriate and relevant to the pupils experience and to their everyday lives.
- That Collective Worship should be a learning experience with links to other areas of the curriculum where possible and naturally complement some of the work done in Religious Education.
- That Collective Worship should allow pupils time to reflect and become more sensitive to the wonders and mysteries of the world around them and to the needs and aspirations of others.
- That Collective Worship should be special and should provide a time and place to gather in an atmosphere of quietness.
- That Collective Worship should be about laying of foundations on which a mature understanding is developed thus enabling children to make informed choices at a later date.

Organisation

An act of daily worship is held at 2.30 pm in the Hall on Monday to Wednesday, Class assembly on Thursday and a Celebration assembly on Friday at 2.30pm. This is a shared activity allowing opportunities for participation and responses from the children.

- Opportunity for all children to learn and join in with the school prayer.
- Time is taken for prayer, periods of silence and reflection.
- Use is made of songs/hymns of a modern and traditional nature.
- Where possible use is made of story, drama, artefacts, religious texts, poems, and music.
- When appropriate, reference is made to other world religions and cultures.

Planning

Collective Worship is planned:

- Using the Feel Good Assemblies material
- Around major festivals.
- In response to local, national news and issues.
- In response to sharing and celebrating the schools work.
- Celebrating children's work.

Evaluation

Evaluation takes place through questioning of children during collective worship.

Monitoring

In this school Collective Worship will be monitored by the RE coordinator.

Discussion at staff meetings will include:

- Review of content and methodology.
- Suitability for the age group, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, grouping and leadership.
- Links to curriculum and classroom experience.
- Resources and budget.

No child will be denied access to Collective Worship because of his or her creed, race, physical ability or academic achievement.

Withdrawal Clause

Parents/carers retain the right to withdraw their child. Teachers' rights are also safeguarded.

School Prayer

God bless our school, that in working together and playing together, we learn to love you and to love each other. Amen

May 25