


<p style="text-align: center;">Collective Worship Policy</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Oakmeadow CE Primary and Nursery School</p>	
Reviewed April 19	Next Review due: April 21

Collective Worship Policy

Our Vision

Through a positive caring environment, we provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential. We embrace Christian Values and ensure all children are ready for their next steps.

Core Principles

- We will provide the opportunity for everyone to achieve their full potential.
- We set high expectations for ourselves and each other.
- We will ensure that Christian values are at the heart of our community.
- We take into account the unique qualities of each child and ensure their individual needs are met.
- We will involve parents and carers in the education of their children and encourage their participation in school life.
- We will ensure all children have access to an engaging and exciting curriculum that promotes learning and makes full use of the out door environment and our rural setting.

Rationale

The school ethos informs the policy and practice of collective worship in Oakmeadow CE Primary School and Nursery. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation values and ethos of the school.

Worship is central to the life and purposes of our school.

Aims

Through collective worship in our school we aim to:

- Provide an experience of worship that will allow children to respond the presence, power and peace of God.

- Introduce children to Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the church year.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying and introduce children to some well-known Christian prayers, e.g. Lords Prayer.
- Strengthen and support the school community giving expression to and reaffirming the Christian values of the school.
- Celebrate the gifts that each child brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God.
- Encourage children to reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and to respond to wonder and mystery of the world around them.
- Foster a concern for others within the school and wider world.
- Foster an appreciation of the created world and an awareness of our responsibility for it.

Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children, this must be in discussion with the head teacher. 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.

Elements of Worship

The Daily Act of Worship

Worship is held every day and lasts at least twenty minutes. Every week we hold a **whole school act of worship**, emphasising the unity of the school, there is one **class based act of worship** led by class teachers, **one singing and rejoice assembly**, a whole school **KS1/KS2 act of worship** and **celebration worship**. Our local Church of England vicar leads one of the acts of worship once a month and others are led by the head teacher and other members of staff. Children are also encouraged to lead all or part of worship or may contribute with readings or prayers.

Worship is held in the hall, classes and studio. In each there is a cross as a focal point and candles are lit to represent the Trinity at the start of each worship . Each class has a dedicated prayer space, with the school worship picture, Lord's Prayer and candle. We have runners on the worship table that are made up of the pupils' hands, to represent our commitment to the values we hold in school. Music is played school prayer is recited regularly, along with the Lords Prayer. A wide range of approaches are used in class led worship, including drama, discussion, reflection, reading, singing and prayer.

The children also attend services in Church regularly: a carol service, Harvest Festival as an example and these are normally led by the local vicar.

Themes

We have adopted key Christian values that form the basis of our worship and wider school life.

Each value is looked at for a half term and all worship is planned around this value, as well as being promoted throughout the school. Care is taken to ensure that

Understanding of each value is rooted in the Bible and the example of Jesus.

We have added in significant dates in the Christian year and days of particular importance such as Remembrance Day. We are also able to respond to local, national or world events (or a need from the children), that merit reflection and prayers.

A range of resources are available to all staff, 'Values for Life' packs, 'Jack in the box' and 'Open the Box' by Shanhe Vickery etc. Classes all have a worship materials that includes age appropriate bibles and books.

Role of the Co-ordinator

Role of the Co-ordinator is responsible for supporting staff in their planning of worship where necessary. The co-ordinator is also responsible for organising and replenishing resources and for monitoring all aspects of worship within the school. They also work within the worship team (HT and DHT) to monitor the quality of RE and worship within the school.

Evaluation of Worship

The co-ordinator monitors whole school and class acts of worship throughout the year, alongside the head teacher (and governors when available).

The policy will be reviewed in April 2019.

Updated by: CW, April 2017.