

WESTFIELDS INFANT SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Principles

Collective worship in Westfields Infant School is an integral part of the broad and balanced curriculum to which all our pupils are entitled. As a school we recognise that the proper place for a fuller exploration of religious traditions and beliefs, both Christian and others, is within Religious Education.

Aims

To develop

- Social and moral values.
- Spiritual awareness.
- Knowledge of Christian values, beliefs, celebrations and pattern of worship.
- Awareness of other beliefs, traditions, cultures, and patterns of worship

To provide time and opportunities

- For reflection and reverence.
- To encourage the growth of a sharing and caring school community amongst all staff and pupils.
- To provide opportunities for celebration and reflections on things held to be of worth.
- To provide a rhythm to the life of the school by marking and celebrating special occasions and achievements.
- To encourage children to be a part of large and small gatherings as well as to provide opportunities to perform and respond to presentation.
- To provide opportunities to worship God.

Practice and Procedures

The majority of acts of collective worship will be based on the broad principles and values of Christianity, the majority of themes will be appropriate to all pupils whatever their background.

A collective act of worship should provide opportunities to:

- Focus on a particular issue by providing a stimulus.
- Encourage reflection on the theme.
- Respond in a variety of ways such as:
 - Prayers
 - Singing
 - Movement
 - Experiencing stillness/thinking time/prayers
 - Develop a sense of reverence

We aim to achieve this over a period of time through the recognition and fostering of attitudes and values which we believe are of central importance to our school ethos

We aim to create an atmosphere of calmness and security. Children will be expected to arrive and leave silently and music will be played on arrival and

departure.

Collective worship may be centred around one-off events e.g charity days, school and national events. Room for flexibility will be maintained in order to cater for the unexpected event.

Administrative and disciplinary matters will as far as possible be separated from the act of collective worship.

Children who are withdrawn from collective worship

The class teacher/headteacher should discuss the matter sensitively with any parent who wishes to exercise their right to withdraw their child.

Resources

A range of books containing stories and themes suitable for collective worship are kept in the staff workroom.

Policy reviewed: Autumn 2022

Next review date: Autumn 2025