

***SHERWOOD
PRIMARY SCHOOL***

**COLLECTIVE
WORSHIP
POLICY**

MAY 2014

**SHERWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
MISSION STATEMENT**

We aim to create a happy, caring environment in which children develop self-confidence and independence and are encouraged to be considerate and show respect for others, while reaching their true potential.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The Collective Worship Policy at Sherwood Primary School follows the guidance of:

- Circular 1/94 Religious Education and Collective Worship
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998 – Chapter VI

'In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. (ERA 1988, Education Act 1993)

ERA (1988) and the Education Act (1993) state that acts of worship may contain certain elements drawn from a number of different faiths, but that within each term, the majority of acts of worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

At Sherwood Primary School our collective worship is broadly Christian but is distinct from corporate worship within a faith group. There are occasions when other faiths are the focus during collective worship, (for example festivals, holy days etc).

At Sherwood Primary School all pupils take part in a daily act of collective worship and facilities are available for those pupils who are excused from attending.

The Purpose of Collective Worship

- To contribute to a sense of unity and community for the school as a whole
- To promote spiritual, cultural and moral development

Aims of Collective Worship

- To provide opportunity for an experience of worship
- To reflect on values and concerns of the school community and the community it serves
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response
- To enable children to gain insights into ways in which people express themselves within their faith commitments.
- To promote respect and sensitivity for the beliefs and values of others

Objectives of Collective Worship

To develop a sense of:

- Awe, wonder and mystery
- Interdependence with the natural world
- Pattern, sequence and order
- Self-worth and value of others

To develop an awareness:

- That life involves choices of belief/attitude/behaviour/relationships
- That there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life

All assemblies/collective worship contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children, being inclusive, educational and spiritual.

They include worship and/or Christian worship and are seen as special times where children can feel secure and relaxed and share with others to foster a feeling of community.

Planning

Assemblies are planned on a termly basis to follow a theme which promotes spiritual, cultural and moral development. They include examples from various religious cultures. These themes are linked to:

- Religious events
- Special days
- Special events in the life of the school
- Topics being undertaken

and are linked to the Calendar of Religious Festivals for the year.

Assemblies

- Meetings are arranged to develop a sense of occasion
- Children are expected to enter and leave quietly
- Music is played at the start and end of the assembly from a variety of sources
- A hymn or appropriate song relevant to the theme of the week is sung and generally the overhead projector is used

The Law

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from acts of worship.

Arrangements are made for children who are withdrawn from collective worship. All children will be provided with appropriate classwork and will be supervised in the activity room by members of staff (on a rota basis).

In class assembly time children will be given appropriate work to complete whilst the rest of the class take part in assembly/collective worship. Staff, equally, have the right to withdraw from collective worship.

Further Information

DfEE Religious Education and Collective Worship 1/94

HMSO School Standard and Framework Act 1998: Chapter VI

www.dfes.gov.uk/a-z/collective-worship

Approval date: May 2014

Review date: May 2018

Signed (Headteacher):

Signed (On behalf of the Governing Body):