



## NEWINGTON CEP SCHOOL

### POLICY for

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Approved by Strategy	Review Date
Summer 2016	Autumn 2017

#### Introduction

This document has been written with the purpose of informing governors and parents of the school's policy on Collective Worship and to ensure that a consistent approach is used.

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that every child should attend a daily act of worship (unless withdrawn by parents). Collective Worship should be educational and appropriate for the age and aptitude of the pupils. It cannot be used as a substitute for Religious Education. Children at Newington take part in worship that is broadly Anglican in belief and practice.

## Aims

- To provide a time when the school community can come together to celebrate personal worth and religious belief.
- To provide opportunities for pupils' spiritual and moral development.
- To celebrate Christian values on which the life of the school is based.
- To provide opportunities to experience a variety of forms of worship.
- To celebrate individual, school and wider community achievement.
- To provide opportunities for children to develop an understanding of different world religions and communities.

## Objectives

- To share the experience of worship as a large group.
- To develop the practice of reflection.
- To introduce pupils to a variety of forms of worship.
- To celebrate the shared values of the school community.
- To enable the children to celebrate their good work, knowledge and skills within the framework of Collective Worship.

## Planning and Co-ordination

A termly assembly plan is provided by the diocesan adviser and for the majority of assemblies we follow these themes. These can be found on the Kent Learning Zone school portal. Dates in the Christian calendar, and major dates in other religions will be included in the programme. The vicar and other members of the church, liaises with the Collective Worship co-ordinator, to plan the themes together. Records of assemblies can be found in the Collective Worship folder.

## Content

Assemblies include a variety of:

- Reflection and prayer
- Praise and song
- Ceremony and ritual
- Fellowship and involvement
- Celebration
- Story, poetry and music
- Stimulus and response

Parents may exercise the right to withdraw children from acts of worship by contacting the Headteacher and, after discussion, supplying a written request. Alternative arrangements will then be made for the child to be withdrawn and given appropriate work during the time of worship.

Entrance and exit from the hall is to music chosen to reflect the assembly theme.

### Time allocation

15 minutes each day is allocated to Collective Worship, although a special event such as harvest festival may require a longer time allocation. There are appropriate key stage assemblies every week.

### Weekly Organisation

Monday – Head of School, theme based worship

Tuesday – Music celebration and Bible Hunt / Proverbs

Wednesday – Local vicar, theme based celebration worship (with parents invited in)

Thursday - Key stage/theme based worship

Friday – Teacher, whole school, theme based worship

### Church links

Newington School has close links with St. Mary's Church. The school attends an act of worship at the church during major festivals e.g. Harvest, Christingle, Christmas and Pentecost. The vicar or a member of the church leads worship once a week.

### Equal opportunities

Children have equal access to Collective Worship regardless of sex, race or ability.

### PSHE and Citizenship

Opportunities will be exploited through Collective Worship to promote the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and personal development of each pupil. Weekly 'Circle Time' will be held in each class at a time convenient to the class teacher and the timetable. 'Circle Time' is a special time for children which helps to raise spiritual awareness, self-esteem, teamwork and allows time for reflection.

### Resources

Resources are kept in the hall stock cupboard. The music CDs and song words are kept in the hall.

### Staff responsibilities

Head of School: arranging dates of special worships and planning and implementing Collective Worship.

Collective Worship Co-ordinator – arranging visits from outside speakers, planning termly themes

Music Co-ordinator – working with the Collective Worship coordinator over the choice of songs for Tuesday worships.

Teachers – leading class/key stage worship, providing a class prayer. Teachers will also teach a Friday worship each term.

## Monitoring

The planning and delivery of Collective Worship is monitored three times a year by the co-ordinator. Teachers are asked to monitor each other's worships.