

Acton CE Primary Academy



Collective Worship Policy

TO DEVELOP THE LEARNERS OF TOMORROW AND EQUIP THEM WITH THE SKILLS TO FLOURISH AND SUCCEED FOR NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD LUKE 1:37

Confirmation that the Collective Worship Policy has been discussed and approved by the Staff and Board of Trustees

March **2020**

To be reviewed **March 2022**

Acton C of E Primary Academy Policy

Policy Statement:

At Acton School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life.

Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our mission statement.

'Where believing is achieving and learning is fun'

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together.

The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values:

We identify and hold true the values of, service, respect, forgiveness, friendship, hope, love. These underpin our collective worship sessions and have been focal points in classrooms through Reflection Areas and prayer spaces.

These values are embodied in the New Commandment that Jesus gave us:

John 13:34-35

"...love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples".

We also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

Legal Requirements:

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head of School. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Organisation:

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday: Values and reflection

Tuesday: Hymn Practice

Wednesday: Faith focus – Church led worship

Thursday: SMSC focus/bible studies

Friday: Shout out/values celebration

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship.

The assembly/worship should last approximately 15 minutes.

Worship planner

As a church school we follow a set plan for worship, this is as follows:

- **Call to worship –**

The children enter the hall quietly and sit and listen to the music that has been chosen for that day. A table at the front will have the relevant church calendar colour displayed, a cross and a lit candle.

Staff stand/sit quietly at the side of hall.

A list of composers and music for the term is found on Portal under the Collective Worship tab. CDs are in the locked cupboard in the Head's office and should be replaced each week.

- **Greeting-**

The liturgy is said by the worship leader

'The Lord be with you'

Pupils reply 'And also with you'

- **The Word of God-**

Bible readings linked to the theme

- **Engaging-**

Part of worship where we can join in: hear a story, perform a play, join in a dance or asked to think about something

- **Response-**

Singing a song, reflection or prayer

- **Sending out-**

Worship leader: 'Peace be with you'

Pupil's response: 'And also with you'

The children leave the hall quietly listening again to the days chosen music.

Prayer and Reflection:

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including hymn practice. A range of prayers is used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by all children and adults. A class prayer is also said at the end of the school day.

Children are encouraged to write short prayers during reflection times and put these onto the class prayer trees.

Other Faiths:

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. The class-led acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the curriculum requirements.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring:

A file is kept, recording details of long, medium and short term planning for each act of worship. Staff are required to write up and evaluate each collective worship. These are printed off for the Collective worship file and can be found on the portal under Collective Worship.

Visits and visitors:

As part of the curriculum, Acton C of E Primary School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship. Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. St Mary's Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' Services.