



Fellowship, Courage and Creativity

Policy Title: Collective Worship Policy
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Ownership: Teaching and Learning Committee
Policy Type: Non-Statutory

Signed _____ (Headteacher)

_____ (Chair of Governors)

This policy can also be made available in approved formats as listed in the Policies File, on request to the School Office

INTRODUCTION

‘Our vision for education is deeply Christian, with Jesus’ promise of ‘life in all its fullness’ at its heart.

In line with the Church of England’s role as the established Church, our vision is for the common good of the whole community.

Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills: enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.

Educating for hope and aspiration: enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.

Educating for community and living well together: a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.

Educating for dignity and respect: the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.’

Church of England Vision for Education (2018)

AIMS

Whitewater CofE Primary School will promote and value the role of Religious Education in the education of pupils. Collective and Class Worship will be based upon the foundations and principles of the Church of England and will reflect the ethos, values and vision of the school.

All forms of Worship will offer children opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Through Collective Worship we aim to provide the opportunity for pupils;

- To worship God
- To consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- To encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes
- To reflect on the values which underpin Whitewater CofE Primary School

The act of worship will:

- Develop a sense of belonging to the whole school community
- Deepen the childrens knowledge and sense of wonder at the world around us
- Provide an opportunity for children to reflect, respond and experience stillness and quiet
- Develop a feeling of self-awareness and teach respect for the beliefs of others
- Be inclusive not exclusive
- Providing a rhythm to the life of the school by marking and celebrating special occasions and achievements

WHY?

Schools are legally required to provide all pupils with the opportunity to take part in an act of Collective Worship daily. We believe that Collective Worship supports and brings together the school community and is fundamental to our aims and values as a Church of England School. The 1998 Education Act gives parents the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship however it is considered that taking part in Collective or Class Worship is an integral and vital part of the school day.

WHO?

The head teacher, deputy head, teaching staff, children and invited speakers are all given the opportunity to lead Collective Worship.

WHAT?

- Acts of Collective Worship are “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”, appropriate to the family backgrounds of the pupils and to their ages and aptitudes.
- The Christian year provides a shape to the worship and can share with the community in celebrating and exploring Christian festivals and events such as, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Harvest.
- The Christian values, such as trust, respect and wisdom, are foci for Collective Worship throughout the year which work hand-in-hand with our core school values.

WHERE?

Collective Worship takes place in a variety of places within the school environment and outside school. The atmosphere for Collective Worship always provides an opportunity for quiet reflection and prayer wherever Worship takes place.

MONITORING

Governors, the Collective Worship Leader and the RE Leader monitor all aspects of Collective Worship throughout the year to ensure its effectiveness.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Single Equalities Policy and procedures.