



Radley CE Primary School & Foundation Stage Unit

Policy for Collective Acts of Worship

Introduction

This policy has been developed to ensure that the Collective Worship Policy contributes to the school fulfilling its values statement, and is intrinsically linked with, and is informed by other school policies, including the:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Early Years Behaviours for Learning Policy
- Equality and Social Inclusion Policy
- IT Policy
- Policy for Learning and Teaching
- Special Educational Needs Policy

At Radley CE Primary School, we believe that acts of worship in school should be an affirmation and a celebration of our Christian ethos and values.

We believe worship to be:

- An occasion to add significance and meaning to the daily lives of pupils
- An opportunity for stillness and personal reflection on the spiritual dimension of life
- An opportunity for acknowledgement of the awe and wonder that our world provides us, and an occasion to encourage respect and care for God's creation.
- Our response to God in thanksgiving and humility

Collective worship provides the opportunity for children and adults to express and share their sense of awe and wonder; this may take place in school and in St James' Church. As a Church School, the language of our celebration and worship is that of the Christian faith, but children of other faiths and philosophies will have their beliefs welcomed, shared and respected.

We believe that our daily act of worship encourages a sense of unity and identity among pupils and staff that contributes to the strengthening of the school community. Acts of worship are prepared and planned according to our shared values and using themes that will arouse interest and enable participation of all those present.

At Radley CE Primary School, we strive to achieve a balance between whole school, key stage and class acts of worship. Each week, there are three whole school acts of worship and two class acts of worship. Our end of week whole school act of worship is a celebration of all that has gone before in the week and is led by the children.

Our planned schedule enables the following principles to be included:

- Pupils are included and consulted in the planning of Worship
- Pupils are invited to participate practically in planned Worship
- Opportunity for pupils to explore and share beliefs
- Consideration of the importance of prayer, reflection and silence

- Contemplation around the relevance of ideas and beliefs to children's own lives
- Opportunity to listen to stories from the Bible
- Thought about the needs of others and the development of a sense of community
- Appreciation of the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them
- Opportunity to consider the meanings of the Christian faith
- Opportunity to re-affirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school
- Time to share and celebrate the various achievements of members of the community

As a Church School, collective worship is the responsibility of the Foundation Governors under the trust deed. Parents may withdraw children from acts of worship, but should discuss this with the Headteacher.

Date of review: Dec 2018

Date of next review: Dec 2021