



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Jesus said, "When two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them".

(Matthew 18. v20)

AIMS: The act of Collective Worship is an opportunity for the whole school community to gather together for the purpose of experiencing a spiritual act, to grow and reflect in a spiritual context, to sense the presence of God, to pray to God and to listen to spiritual readings.

At various times, the act of Collective Worship will provide opportunities to:

- Celebrate the uniqueness and the achievement of each individual learner, the achievement of groups of learners, and the achievement of the whole school community
- Allow communication with God through prayer, readings, listening, saying sorry, asking, telling, experiencing silence, dance and drama
- Include the presence of God into every school day
- Increase an awareness of the diversity of God
- Widen the learners experience of the ways of praying to and communicating with God
- Increase knowledge and awareness of God and of his world
- Develop a sense of community within the school

TIME/PLACE:

The act of Collective Worship takes place at 9:00am (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) and lasts for 30 minutes.

Class assembly takes place on the Thursdays in the first half of the spring term and begins at 10:00am

Celebration Assembly takes place at 3.00 pm.

The timetable for the specific acts of worship is as follows:

<i>Monday:</i>	<i>Whole school meet in the hall.</i>
<i>Tuesday:</i>	<i>Whole school meet in the hall for worship followed by whole school singing.</i>
<i>Wednesday:</i>	<i>Foundation Stage meet in their classrooms</i> <i>Key Stages 1 and 2 meet with Revd Chris Moody/Revd Caroline Risdon in</i> <i>the hall</i>
<i>Thursday:</i>	<i>Whole school celebration led by individual classes/teachers in the hall</i>
<i>Friday:</i>	<i>Celebration Assembly in the hall by class teachers.</i>

EXPECTATIONS:

In order to worship together as a school community, all class-based staff are expected to attend Collective Worship.



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CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Creek Road, Greenwich, London, SE10 9RB



To reflect the ethos of the spirituality of the act of worship staff and children are expected to enter and leave the hall quietly and calmly, Appropriate music is played to facilitate this calm and respectful atmosphere.

The language used in the act of Collective Worship is inclusive and can be understood by all learners, as far as possible.

Images that encourage the sensory perceptions of God and of prayer, through sign, smell, touch, feeling and hearing, are used and encouraged.

There should be some aspects of the following in all acts of Collective Worship;

- **Focus:** The focus of the act of Collective Worship is usually a table at the front of the hall or the prayer corner in the classroom on/at which is displayed appropriate Christian symbols such as a cross, candles and a copy of The Bible.
- **Knowledge:** Knowledge about the Teaching of Jesus, the Christian way of life and the Awe and Wonder of our world can be imparted by stories, drama, personal witness, visual methods, other sensory tools, etc.
- **Prayer:** This can take several forms, including silent reflection, responses, inviting learners or other members of the school community to initiate spontaneous prayer, reciting known prayers, sharing prayers from other faiths.

LINKS WITH THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

The themes of the act of Collective Worship follow the school values and liturgical themes throughout the year. In the event of an exceptional circumstance, such as a major disaster, a death, a particular reason for celebration, this may become the theme for one or several acts of Collective Worship,

INCLUSION

All learners and other member of the school community are invited to participate in the act of Collective Worship regardless of race, gender, ability faith, sexual orientation or status.

The parent's right of withdrawal, as expressed in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6(1) and 9(3) is respected, namely

"All pupils in attendance at a mainstream school shall on each school day take part in an act of Collective Worship unless the parent . . . request that s/he may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in the school."

Reviewed: July 2019
Next Review Date: July 2020
Custodian: Governing Body/Learning & Achievement Committee

Signed by the Chair of Governors: