



HAWTHORN PARK COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Where Care and Learning Count

Headteacher: Mrs Jeni Houghton



Collective Worship Policy (October 2018)

Introduction

The Collective Worship Policy at Hawthorn Park pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

The Collective Worship Policy is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

Aims:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of the school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

Wider school aims/ethos:

We aim to:

- Provide children with the opportunity to achieve their potential in the high-quality skills of English and Mathematics
- Strive to equip our children with the skills through which to maximise modern technology
- Provide each child with experience of success achieved through appropriate challenges
- Celebrate everyone's achievement
- Recognise and seek to meet the needs of all our children
- Provide support for children in developing tolerance and understanding of themselves, others and the rules and expectations of the communities and societies in which they live
- Facilitate opportunities for positive emotional development and well-being of the whole child, including a moral compass.
- Offer opportunities for all children to experience the widest range of learning activities.
- Enthuse and motivate all our pupils to embrace lifelong learning
- Work in partnership with parents and carers.

Consultation:

This policy was written by Jennifer Russell, Key Stage One Lead and RE Subject Lead.

Procedures and practice

Definition:

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Withdrawal:

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.

At this school it is our practice to talk to parents to ensure that they understand the aims and value of the RE curriculum before honouring the right of withdrawal from RE, or Collective Worship. Parents of a pupil at a community, foundation or voluntary school have a right to withdraw their children from RE or Collective Worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or Collective Worship the school must comply unless the request is withdrawn. Any parent who wishes to withdraw their child is expected to consult the headteacher. Teachers may also withdraw from the teaching of RE or Collective Worship.

Leading Collective Worship:

Leadership Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils. The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

Planning:

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils. Half termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. These will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Organisation:

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom. Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate. Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, RE and PHSE lessons

Monitoring and evaluation:

The RE Subject Lead will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

Concluding notes**Monitoring and review:**

Governors are responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy along with the Subject Lead

Governor approval date: October 2018

Next review date: October 2022