



Bromstone Primary School
Collective Worship Policy

Formulation date: 1st September 2014

Senior Team Responsibility: Head of School

Governors' Reviewing Committee: Leadership and Management

Approved on: Sept 2014

Reviewed by SLT : 2nd February 2024

Next Review Date: February 2026

Associated Documentation:

Bromstone Primary School

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This policy satisfies the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988 and DFE Circular 1/94 (Religious Education and Collective Worship).

Aims

‘Collective Worship in school should provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, consider spiritual and moral issues, explore their own beliefs, encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and re-inforce positive attitudes’.
(Ref. DFE Circular 1/94)

MEANING OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Worship in school is different in character from worship amongst a group with beliefs in common (ie. collective worship rather than corporate worship).

Worship in our school fosters a respect for the world and its peoples. It reflects something special or separate from ordinary school activities, and is concerned with reverence, and worthwhileness of the occasion.

Collective worship is different from Assembly, although they usually take place as part of the same gathering. Collective worship at our school is usually related to the day to day life, aspirations and concerns of the school.

CHARACTER OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective Worship is “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character” (ERA 1988). It is not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination, nor is it necessary for it to contain only Christian materials.

Collective Worship at our school:-

- reflects our school values of co-operation, honesty, excellence, courtesy, kindness, equality and respect.
- respects pupil and staff integrity and is rooted in a nurturing approach.
- fosters a thought-provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response
- explores experiences which are a part of everyday living eg community and belonging; success and failure; joy and grief.
- Reflects British values.

DELIVERY OF THE ACT OF WORSHIP

The school will promote the aims, meaning and character of collective worship outlined above through:-

- a) silence, reflection or prayer
- b) songs and music
- c) readings, poetry, stories (religious and moral)
- d) drama and dance

- e) use of artefacts; visual and audio-visual aids
- f) creating a suitable atmosphere eg. a sense of order on entering and leaving; use of candles or other similar focus
- g) pupil participation

ORGANISATION

- 1 Collective worship will take place on a daily basis.
- 2 Acts of collective worship can be whole school, year team or class-based.
- 3 Those who lead do so in ways that allow everyone present to take part with integrity.
- 4 Invitations to visiting speakers from outside the school, and opportunities for classes to lead the acts of collective worship are encouraged.

EXERCISE OF RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Although parents have a right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, the school would rather enter into a dialogue with the parents and child to see how they can be fully included in all our school activities. Children not taking part will miss out on the important sense of belonging fostered during our time together.