

Collective Worship Policy

Signed:

Chair of Governors: A. Jenkins *A. Jenkins*

Executive Headteacher: S. Stevenson *S. Stevenson*

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Collective Worship in schools should 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; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.

Collective Worship, subject to the right of withdrawal, is intended to be appropriate and to include all pupils attending the school. It must take place on the premises, may be in separate and different age groups or a collective act. Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may take place as part of the same gathering but there must be a clear difference. Hymns, prayers and bible readings are not compulsory but may be appropriate. An act of collective worship should be capable of eliciting a response from pupils.

The act of Collect Worship must be wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character. It should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief but not be denominational.

Specific Aims

In our acts of collective worship we aim to:

- Foster a sense of fellowship and belonging.
- Foster a sense of awe and wonder at the beauty, mystery and power of the natural world.
- Allow reflection on fundamental questions of life.
- Encourage pupils to consider fundamental questions about the purpose of being and about moral and ethical stances, including British Values.
- Provide opportunities for celebration and thanksgiving.
- Foster concern for the needs of others.
- Provide a time for sharing the successes of others; provide the experience of being part of a caring community.
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- Foster new insights about life.
- Contribute to the religious education of all pupils.
- Introduce pupils to various aspects of religious worship, give them confidence in their own tradition and help them to value the tradition of others.

Organisation for daily Collective Worship

Collective Worship at Crackley Bank is organised to allow for a 20 minute worship each day. These assemblies vary throughout the week. They take the form of full school assemblies, key stage assemblies, or class assemblies.

The collective worship is led by the a member of teaching staff or guest e.g. the Reverend.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship and this should be arranged with the Head of school.

Members of staff are able to withdraw from collective worship, but must take part in assembly.

Arrangements for Collective Worship

Collective worship at Crackley Bank is under the direction of the Executive Headteacher. It includes hymn singing, thoughts and feelings, Christian stories, moral stories and thoughts about community spirit. Collective Worship also focus on issues which all faiths can contribute e.g. caring for the world and its people.

Aims for Collective Worship

We try to make our collective worship time distinctive from assemblies and other school activities by the atmosphere created. It is a time when the school collectively is able to express a level of community, celebrating and reinforcing shared ideas and feelings; as well as encouraging our pupils to think about their place in the world, through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

Collective Worship aims to be both imaginative and supportive of pupils' developing beliefs and conscience and offer opportunities for the promotion and nurturing of British values.

Our approach to Collective Worship is based on the needs and interests of the children bearing in mind their physical, social, intellectual and spiritual development.

Our Values based discussions and acts of worship begin with discussion about the self, e.g. self-respect and self-worth in relation to the individual value so that children see that they are important in their own right.

Our children come to us from a variety of homes and backgrounds therefore many of our themes are based on the experience of the child. Whatever our children's faith or lack of faith, the ethos of our school to promote qualities of mutual respect and tolerance, will hopefully help them to grow up to be knowledgeable, tolerant adults in a multicultural society.

Whenever possible we welcome parents, governors and members of the community to our acts of worship. As part of our R.E. Scheme – Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education, children visit various places of worship in the locality.

We feel that our approach to collective worship is conducive to the aims and ethos of our school.