



# Fritchley CE (Aided) Primary School

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

### 1. Rationale

The School Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the school's aims and ethos –

*At Fritchley School we learn and achieve together within a safe, respectful and welcoming Christian community. Our children's spiritual and moral development is nurtured by our values, enabling them to fulfil their potential and giving them the confidence needed to be lifelong learners and problem solvers*

and will demonstrate the partnership between the conduct and content of school worship and the ethos of the whole school based on Christian values of

|             |              |            |            |            |                       |
|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Courage     | Thankfulness | Generosity | Creativity | Compassion | Perseverance          |
| Peace       | Friendship   | Wisdom     | Trust      | Hope       | Responsibility        |
| Forgiveness | Truthfulness | Service    | Humility   | Justice    | Respect and reverence |

At Fritchley CE (Aided) Primary and Nursery School we consider Collective worship to be a significant educational activity that both reflects and explores the schools distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well being of all learners.

Therefore Collective Worship at Fritchley CE (Aided) Primary and Nursery School is planned to:

- to be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- will regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the schools core Christian values
- will have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity.
- will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- will challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection and Stillness.
- will contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to"
- will be an opportunity to Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals and secular events.

Collective worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith or denomination.

The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship at Fritchley CE (Aided) Primary and Nursery School include opportunities for:

- the whole community to celebrate;
- sharing and experiencing differences;
- developing a culture of learning;
- building a sense of group identity;
- encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;

- a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- learning how to behave in a large social group;
- exploring feelings and emotions;
- learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- learning how to respond to a performance;
- making visible the school's leadership;
- developing inner awareness.
- Developing awareness and understanding of the fundamental British Values.
- Children to plan and deliver worship.

## 2. Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation. The School meets this requirement and is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

### Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and handbook. It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school prospectus.

## 3. Planning a Collective Worship programme

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by joining together in a distinctly Christian welcome led by the children.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching using the long and medium term plans set out by the Collective Worship Co-ordinator. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation.

A worship-planning committee meets regularly throughout term led by the worship co-ordinator supported by children from each class. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan activities and worship for the next term such as Messy Church, celebrations at St Mary's Church or school and choosing hymns and songs for worship. The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through the planning committee. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship.

The long and medium term planning of worship is based upon the publication 'Values for Life' and incorporates stories and celebrations from other faiths and cultures.

## 4. Our pattern of Collective Worship

All children have the opportunity to join in worship daily at 9:00am for 20 minutes. We follow the 'Values for Life' scheme as suggested by Derby Diocese Board of Education. This has a value to focus on for the duration of a term and is linked to the whole school reward system which is based upon the 18 values outlined in the scheme. Members of staff share the responsibility of leading worship as follows

| Day       | Content  | Led by                |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| Monday    | Mental Health                                    | Teacher               |
| Tuesday   | Values for Life                                  | Worship co-ordinator. |
| Wednesday | Singing Worship                                  | Assistant Headteacher |
| Thursday  | Stories from other cultures and religions/ Bible | Teacher/ Clergy       |
| Friday    | Celebration of achievement                       | SLT and children.     |

The focus of worship is the worship table which is placed in the centre of the front of the hall. There is a display focus for the term's value, Christian symbols and a candle to use as a focal point for reflection. Music is played as the children join for worship encouraging them to respond to the music straight away. Children are also given opportunity to engage with worship by responding to greetings and dismissals, role playing and discussion, how worship is planned in the long, medium and short term and being part of the Worship Team who assist in the planning and delivery.

The plans are taken from Values for Life and the collective worship co-ordinator assimilates these into a medium-term plan which is issued to all staff and clergy.

The collective worship co-ordinator also regularly reviews the impact of worship through discussion and evaluation with both the staff and children. The structure and/or planning are then amended in conjunction with larger developments forming a part of the action plan for collective worship.

### **Whole School celebration: Act of worship**

Once a week the school gathers for this worship, in which achievements of pupils at the school are celebrated. Staff and pupils may contribute music, drama or share other work completed. The families of the children and the local community are invited. This worship will normally provide opportunities for spiritual development alongside celebrating achievements both in and out of school.

### **Visitors**

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

### Review

This Collective Worship will be reviewed by the Collective Worship leader and the headteacher.

Reviewed: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021

By: Esther Devonport