

# High Littleton Church of England Primary School

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

At High Littleton Church of England Primary School our Christian values are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

These Values are:

- Appreciation
- Peace
- Respect
- Faith
- Endurance
- Hope
- Trust
- Friendship
- Courage
- Compassion
- Tolerance
- Equality

### **Rationale**

It is every child's entitlement to participate in shared experiences of celebration, praise and thanksgiving to God. We distinguish between assembly and worship by recognising that the gathering of the school community in an assembly is educationally important but doesn't have to take place every day, whereas, there does need to be a daily act of worship.

### **Aims**

- To encourage the development of spiritual awareness
- To encourage feelings of awe, wonder and elation
- To develop a sense of community
- To develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose
- To give an opportunity to respond to questions relating to life and beliefs

- To encourage aesthetic awareness
- To explore a variety of forms of worship
- To celebrate differences and diversities

### **Guidelines**

- Collective Worship will be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.
- The worship will be broadly Christian and spiritual.
- Each Thursday, Reverend Adam Pitt will lead Collective Worship.
- Collective Worship should be educational. It should add to the pupils' learning and reflect the purposes and the ethos of the school. It should contribute to the pupils' moral and spiritual development.
- It should have a sense of occasion. A candle is lit throughout the service and a low table displaying a cross and, on occasions, a focus for the theme.
- Each term, one of the school's Christian values is used as a focus for that term.
- An appropriate hymn is sung during Collective Worship.
- There should be a quiet time for reflection and prayer.
- There is a new theme for each week that forms part of a two-year cycle of themes. These themes are a guide and can be added to or amended as circumstances demand. Reference should be made to the theme or to a major festival in the church year.
- Pupils should be helped to see Collective Worship as a special part of their day. They should behave appropriately by coming into the hall, sitting and leaving the hall quietly.
- Music will be played as children enter the church hall.
- The Lord's Prayer is said at the end of Collective Worship.
- During Collective Worship on Fridays, the children's achievements are celebrated by the awarding of certificates for achievements inside and outside school.

### **Conclusion**

Children should see the act of worship as a time when both adults and children may express thankfulness, joy, share concerns and experiences. It is a time to reaffirm the beliefs, values and ethos of the school community and the Christian church of which they are a part.

The Education Reform Act (1988) makes provision for pupils to be withdrawn, and for staff to withdraw, from Collective Worship. Parents/Carers wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wishes to the Headteacher in writing.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Personal, Social, Spiritual and Moral Development Policy.

**Monitoring**

The Headteacher monitors the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. The Headteacher also reports to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.

Review Date: September 2024