

**Cowes Primary
School**



Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed by: Full Governing Body

On: January 2024

Next review due: January 2027

Chair of Governing Body: Sue Cox

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Cox".

Signature:

Version History	
Date	Description
Jan 2021	V.1
Jan 2024	Minor amendments

Cowes Primary School Collective Worship Policy 2024

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

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”, we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths, however other faiths and cultures will be represented.

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

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship involves the whole school coming together, as a class, key stage or whole school and participating in an assembly. When collective worship takes place within a class group, teachers will conduct the act of collective worship 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.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Cowes Primary School. Leaders from faiths and non-religious groups within the area will increase the pupils’ awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these traditions.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Cowes Primary 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:

- worship God
- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direct 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.

The Contribution of Collective Worship to Aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time, however, in our school, Collective Worship will at all times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes.

At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of the subject matter from different perspectives. The provision of opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice.

To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity through active involvement to "respond" on their own level. The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to pupils of all ages and backgrounds.

The Management of Collective Worship

The Senior Leadership Team will plan and deliver acts of Collective Worship. The role of the Governing Body will monitor and evaluate the provision for Collective Worship through school.

Termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues (*see table at end of document*). Together with weekly planning and recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner that is sensitive and inclusive and will ensure that all children feel comfortable in attending the assembly. However, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from any act or acts of Collective Worship.

Those wishing to make such a request are encouraged to discuss with the head teacher of:

- (a) any particular concerns they may have and
- (b) any practical arrangements for the withdrawal.

Appendix 1

The Contribution of Collective Worship to the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development of pupils

Spiritual development is promoted by:

- the celebration of special achievements
- guided reflection
- consideration of a variety of beliefs, values and feelings
- appreciation of aspects of life which have special meaning and which contribute to a sense of awe and wonder.

Moral development is promoted by:

- consideration of moral codes found in school and society
- consideration of relationships
- encouraging empathy by the consideration of moral issues and different perspectives

Social development is promoted by:

- coming together as a school or class group
- bringing visitors into school from the community
- sharing values and matters of concern

Cultural development is promoted by:

- using music, art, drama, story and artefacts from a range of cultural background
- exploring and celebrating aspects of religion and culture in Britain through British Values and SMSC
- preparing children for modern day British society.

