



## Collective Worship Policy

To be read in conjunction with all other policies plus:-  
Equalities and Community Cohesion Scheme

### 1 Aims and purpose

1.1 The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to participate in an act of worship
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- To enable children to reflect on the values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- To encourage participation and response
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit
- To promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes
- To teach children to be considerate and respectful when they or others choose to worship

### 2 Collective worship

2.1 The Headteacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. This states that daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. However, at Broadway whilst most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

### 3 Organisation of collective worship

3.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship. This forms part of each assembly, which can be either a whole-school assembly, a year group or class assembly.

3.2 We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings, and encourage them to participate in prayer (when appropriate), quiet reflection and songs. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, and sometimes candles or other objects, to focus the attention of the children.

3.3 The assemblies are normally conducted by members of staff, but are sometimes led by local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups or organisations.

3.4 We take the themes of our assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith, and we observe the festivals and mark the events of Christian and other Faiths. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum. We plan our assemblies in advance of the day they take place.

Senior staff and governors will always check for any known changes in legislation or local requirements before applying this policy.



- 3.5** Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies by showing their work to the other children, and by raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised. Broadway School is a successful school, and we shall continue to celebrate the successes of all our children during our assemblies.
- 3.6** Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcome. Parents are also encouraged to attend assemblies on special occasions e.g. Christmas, Harvest Festival, SEAL (Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning) Assemblies etc.

#### **4 Right of withdrawal**

- 4.1** We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

#### **5 Monitoring and review**

- 5.1** Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of the Governing Body. Following an assembly attended by a school governor, feedback is presented at the next Full Governors meeting.

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years.

**Signed: Sue Tanner**

**Date: 12/7/15**

**Headteacher**

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