



BARLOW & CHAPEL HADDLESEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOLS

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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Signed:			
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Links to Other Policies	
Teaching & Learning	

Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

Jesus taught that he had come, 'that we might have life in all its fullness.' In celebration of this, Collective worship is central to the life of Barlow and Chapel Haddlesey Schools, so that the whole school community might experience this for themselves. Every aspect of school life is informed by this central principle.

Worship offers the children and others in our school an opportunity to reflect on Christian and British values and issues in the context of our Christian ethos.

Our collective worship provides the pupils and staff the opportunity to:

- worship God
- develop their sense of awe and wonder about the world around them.
- experience a variety of styles of worship
- celebrate:
 - Christian festivals
 - school values
 - achievements
- grow in understanding of and participation in prayer
- develop a reflective approach to life and reflect on Christian values and embody them in everything we do
- develop as a whole school community based in Christian values
- participate and respond, through active involvement in the planning, leading, presentation and evaluation of worship
- feel safe, valued and affirmed, because we are all made in the image of God.

At times worship will reflect aspects of the curriculum and in particular will:

- nurture spiritual growth
- consider moral issues in a Christian context
- enhance relationships in school and in our families and build a growing sense of social justice
- facilitate integration between teaching, learning, respect for others and our Christian values
- allow every member of the school community to develop a sense of their own spirituality and spiritual awareness.

The Pattern of Collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place each day in school in a whole-school, classroom setting, in the village hall (at Haddlesey) and in the Parish Church (at Haddlesey). We follow the seasons of the Church year and within this significant festivals and other special days are observed. These always include Harvest, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Easter and Pentecost and other significant Saints' Days are celebrated occasionally. Whenever worship takes place our aim is to enrich the rest of the school day and life outside school. Collective worship will usually include:

- a story or drama
- conversation between members of the school community
- a time for reflection/prayer
- a song.

Leading worship

Worship has a variety of leaders from both within school and from the local Church Community. Children are given opportunities to participate and to lead worship throughout the year. Visitors are welcome to lead collective worship from time to time and are given guidance on our worship policy.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

Our acts of worship are carefully planned to ensure a balance between content and experience. Leaders, including the children, plan the content and activities included in Worship according to what is most appropriate to the season/theme, and the ages, aptitudes and the backgrounds of the pupils. Throughout their time at our school children will encounter a wide variety of activities such as dance and drama alongside traditional elements of worship such as prayer and song. Leaders are encouraged to make the most of resources to hand to support preparation and presentation of Collective Worship.

Prayer and personal reflection are vital parts of our worship. Prayer is introduced with a form of words that invites but does not coerce pupils to participate. Our prayers are addressed to Jesus and God, reflecting the traditions and practices of the Church of England. Pupils who prefer not to pray are encouraged to use these times to reflect on the important messages shared in our worship.

Our worship is regularly reviewed through discussions with participants, observation and reflection and our evaluations are fed into the planning for future worship.

A legal note

By law, Collective Worship must:

- be provided for every child every day;
- reflect the school's Trust Deed.

Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that collective worship will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their backgrounds and beliefs. It is invitational, inclusive and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any acts of worship. In the first instance we ask parents who may wish to exercise this right to visit school to speak with the head-teacher.