



St.Catherine's Catholic VA Primary School

'Live, Love and Learn Together'

Collective Worship Policy

Statutory Duty of School

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents - see below). This is usually provided within a daily assembly.

The head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship must be of a Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils. However, if it is inappropriate for some or all of the pupils to take part in Christian collective worship, the head teacher may apply to the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for a determination to have this requirement lifted.

Collective worship in foundation schools with a religious character and voluntary schools will be in accordance with the beliefs of the religion or denomination specified for the school.

Educational benefits

- Collective Worship is of educational value to children, young people and adults within our school community. It provides a means of developing an appreciation that goes beyond the material world, fostering a concern for others and providing a forum for exploring shared values.
- It is important that children and young people become familiar with the language and silence common to many forms of public worship. They are all likely to attend, at the very least, at some point in their lives, a funeral, a wedding or a baptism.
- Collective Worship is a shared experience. It offers children, young people and adults an opportunity to participate in humanity's shared search for God, and in doing so builds community in and beyond the school.
- Collective Worship in most schools also provides the opportunity for pupils to gain an awareness of worship practices of faiths other than their own.
- Collective Worship offers opportunities for co-operation and the fostering of strong relationships between individual schools and the local communities they serve. Local faith leaders should be utilised as a resource and invited to play a part in Collective Worship in schools in their own localities.

Spiritual benefit

- Collective Worship contributes towards schools' statutory obligation to provide opportunities for students' spiritual and moral development. It helps to equip young people to understand more about themselves, foster a sense of the aesthetic and to cope with life-changing moments. Collective Worship provides experience of meditation, reflection and prayer as spiritual resources.

Format of the act of worship

- When all the children are present and quiet they will be greeted and will greet all present.

- The candle may be lit.
- There will be a bible reading, drama or story. This should involve the children in some way.
- Next will be a short explanation of the text
- The children will be invited to pray beginning with the Sign of the Cross.
- There will be a hymn linked to the theme.
- The children will be asked to reflect on the message and use it in their daily life.
- The candle will be extinguished.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Signed.....Date October 2010 Review date:

Chairman of the governors