

Collective Worship Policy

Document Status			
Date of Next Review		Responsibility	<i>committee</i>
Success Criteria for review completion		Responsibility	<i>(Chair)</i>
Date of Policy Creation	Adapted School written model	Responsibility	<i>Chair of Finance</i>
Date of Policy Adoption by Governing Body		Signed	
Method of Communication (e.g Website, Noticeboard, etc)			

Collective Worship at Sessay C E Primary School takes place daily in accordance with current legislative requirements. The whole school meets together twice a week and key stage groups on the other days.

Assemblies are led by the school staff and visitors. Teaching staff are always present.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship if they wish.

In planning the collective worship policy the school has taken into account the following issues and has tried to provide:

- An effective and evolving pattern of themes for collective worship;
- Conceptual coherence and material appropriate to the age and stage of development of the pupils;
- The flexibility to respond to changing circumstances both in and out of school.

The school has included a range of types of worship:-

- Staff led;
- Assemblies led by visitors;
- Pupil involvement;
- Times of celebration;
- Opportunities for reflection and quiet;
- Storytelling;
- The creative and expressive arts;
- The sharing of knowledge, information and achievement;
- Exploration of biblical text and the use of symbolism.

The approach of the school is educational and, where appropriate, curricular, linked with themes that are being studied in school. While most of the acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold some assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and wider community.

Aims for Collective Worship

The school endeavours to promote through an understanding of spiritual, moral and social development:-

- Wonder in the presence of the marvels of the natural world;
- Delight at being alive in the modern world with all it means and offers;
- Expression of emotions and feelings;
- A sense of fellowship between people;
- Attitudes, behaviour and responsibilities towards others, reflecting the school of tolerance, support and understanding;
- Admiration for the human virtues of decency, honesty, self sacrifice, courage etc;
- Concern at the sight of cruelty, injustice, exploitation etc;
- Appreciation of beauty, truth and love.

Criteria of Collective Worship

The themes are linked with the curriculum and presented in a variety of ways and through a variety of media. They are meaningful and of value. They recognise the stage of readiness for worship of each child. They are educationally acceptable in content and suitable for the children present.

Content and Approach

- Celebration of the festivals of Christianity;
- Information on major festivals and other faiths;
- Presentation of bible stories;
- Topical materials from local and national news;
- Literature with implicit and explicit religious or moral teaching;
- Appreciation of the natural world and human activity;
- Appreciation of the talents, achievements, work of ourselves and others;
- Prayer in different forms – formal, children's own, silence and meditation.

Children enter and leave the place of collective worship to appropriate music. They are expected to sit quietly and be attentive. The school always has a hymn and a prayer.

At Christmas, Easter and Harvest time the school has special celebrations to which parents and members of the wider community are invited.