



Collective Worship Policy

Signed: ----- Date: -----
Chair of Governors

Signed: ----- Date: -----
Headteacher

Adopted and Approved by the Governing Body: **October 2023**
Review Date: **October 2027**

Singlewell Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

Collective Worship is a time for children and staff to come together to enhance spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It provides an opportunity to share experiences, beliefs, values and concerns and offer an occasion to reflect on things that inspire us with awe, wonder, gratitude or a sense of being a part of something much greater than ourselves.

At Singlewell Primary School, our collective worship occurs during 'assemblies', which may include other features besides those required of collective worship.

Aims of Collective Worship

During assemblies we aim to:

- Celebrate an act of collective worship for all pupils.
- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian character.
- Reflect on our own beliefs.
- Spend time in reflection and stillness.
- Foster a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- Provide a variety of opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Give opportunities for expressing shared experiences and interests and for celebrating special occasions together.
- Provide opportunities in which pupils interact with other year groups, staff and on occasions the wider community, as well as offering opportunities to perform and respond to a presentation of stories, readings, music, dance, or drama.

Assemblies are conducted in a manner which is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school community. Assemblies are a special time in the day, providing an opportunity for calm reflection. Pupils should behave respectfully and thoughtfully and are asked to come in and leave assemblies in a quiet manner.

Organisation of Collective Worship

An assembly may involve pupils across key stages, separate key stage or class assemblies. The time and duration of the assembly may vary.

During the CARES celebration assembly, staff are encouraged to stay with the children.

In each assembly there will be a short time given to reflect. To focus attention a candle might be lit (or a film clip of a candle might be shown), a picture or image displayed, or a poem read.

We aim to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all pupils and staff in collective worship. For example, when using a story from a particular faith, this will be introduced with sensitivity and pupils will not be required to say or affirm things they do not believe.

Singing

Singing can be an opportunity for celebration or reflection. The selection of songs will respect the integrity of those present. Singing assemblies will include an opportunity for pupils to reflect on some of the words they are singing.

Collective Worship Weekly Timetable

Assemblies are normally conducted by the Senior Leadership Team or other members of Staff, but are sometimes led by visitors to the school e.g. visiting faith leaders.

Content

The content of an assembly may reflect any of the following:

- marking the celebration of a broad range of religious and cultural festivals that reflect a diversity of faiths
- examples of lives of people of faith and other good human beings
- stories supporting themes from a range of sources and cultures
- response to key local, national and international events
- providing an opportunity to think about their own beliefs
- putting things into practice e.g. supporting charities
- providing a moment for silent reflection/prayer
- celebration of successes of members of the school community
- performances or presentations from members of the school community
- input from visiting speakers

Classroom Collective Worship

Classroom collective worship is valuable because:

- Children can be given greater opportunity to participate and respond.
- Children are more likely to offer their deeper thoughts and feelings in a more familiar setting.
- Direct reference can be made to the children's work in curriculum areas.
- Stimulus material can be closely matched to the children's age and abilities

Celebrating Achievements

Assemblies may also reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage children to participate by holding celebration assemblies and class assemblies, during which children may show their work and share successes with others, and can raise issues that they have discussed in their classes. These assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and celebrate them together. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school - that all children and their achievements are valued.

Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or parts of acts of collective worship. Pupils withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.