

SAWLEY INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL



Collective Worship Policy

Approved by:	Academy Governing Body
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VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR	CHANGES
1.1	Oct 2016	MH	Reviewed existing policy. Reformatted to updated layout
v2	May 21	DD	Reformatted. Minor updates & COVID - 19 provision added. Approved by AGB

POLICY STATEMENT FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

During the COVID 19 pandemic, opportunities for Collective Worship will follow the aims and principles of this policy. However, the practical arrangements for any shared activities may be restricted dependent on the government guidance and legislation in force. During periods when parents cannot attend gatherings in school staff will make every attempt to share the life of the school through the school website and Class DoJo.

1. Introduction

At Sawley Infant School (excluding the Nursery provision) we have daily acts of collective worship which are broadly Christian in nature, reflecting the traditions of Christian belief but in a non-denominational manner. Many values and moral codes which are part of the broad traditions of Christian belief are also widely held by society at large; these traditions and values are explored and celebrated in school worship in a way that complements how children are taught in the classroom and are communicated through the ethos of the school.

2. Aims

- To foster a sense of fellowship and belonging together of pupils
- To encourage in pupils a reflective approach to life
- To increase sensitivity towards, and awareness of, the search for meaning in the face of life's mysteries
- To introduce pupils to various aspects (hymns, prayers, drama, art) of religious worship in an open and honest atmosphere

3. Spiritual and Moral Development

At Sawley Infant School our aim is for worship to contribute to the spiritual, social and moral development of all our pupils. We will ensure, as far as possible, that the experiences provided are relevant to age, aptitude and family background of the pupils and that we provide an environment which is conducive to worship and is adequately resourced. We aim to provide opportunities for pupils to share that which is meaningful and significant to them, develop personal recognition of right and wrong and to give the children time for personal reflection.

4. Legal Requirements

All pupils should take part in Collective Worship on each school day unless withdrawal is requested by the parent. All collective worship will take place on school premises. Over each school term the majority of acts of Collective Worship will be wholly or broadly of Christian character without being distinctive of any

particular denomination. Please contact the class teacher if you wish to discuss withdrawal of your child/children.

5. Organisation

Assemblies, which follow a half termly planned theme, are held on a daily basis through a variety of methods and groupings and last for approximately 15 minutes in which an act of Collective Worship is included. Guest speakers (organised by the co-ordinator) may be used to support assembly themes.

Parents and governors are invited to acts of worship which commemorate special festivals or school occasions. Sparkle & Shine assemblies take place on some Fridays, during which we celebrate special achievements from home or school.

6. Planning and Recording

A bi-annual programme of half-termly themes is devised with flexibility to cater for unforeseen events. There is also time for calendar events such as major religious festivals. A copy of the staff rota and half-termly themes is on the staff room notice board together with suggested stories linked to the theme. The books/stories suggested are centrally held in the resource cupboards and shelves. Teachers plan to use a range of strategies to engage children's interest and deepen their understanding of the spiritual dimension to their lives i.e. songs, story, poetry, drama, prayer, music, hymns, readings and silence.

7. Resources

The Religious Education (RE) co-ordinator is available to give advice and support to staff and visitors where the planning and delivery of collective worship is concerned.

8. Monitoring & Evaluation

Records of Collective Worship are monitored in terms of the range and variety of experiences being offered to the children and evaluated half-termly by the co-ordinator. The outcomes of collective worship are evaluated through the process of teacher observation, pupil feedback and parental feedback on the quality of the school's ethos and communal relationships.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years and more frequently as required.