

Balcombe C E (C) School



Collective Worship Policy

Adopted by Governors: Mar 2010

Reviewed: Feb 2013
Jun 2016
Jun 2018

Next Review: Jun 2021

Rationale

At Balcombe CE Primary School we believe it is important to meet daily together, as a community, to reinforce our Christian, community values and to worship together. The character of the worship in the school is broadly Christian. Multicultural aspects are covered across the curriculum and also periodically during our assemblies. Collective Worship is coordinated by the head teacher and a variety of themes and activities are used to ensure a high quality experience for all children regardless of beliefs and background. Themes are chosen to be relevant and purposeful and individual assemblies are planned to engage, stimulate and challenge the children in terms of response and thought. Opportunities are regularly given for children to share their thoughts and ideas, either with one other child or to the whole group.

Legal Requirements

- All pupils should take part in a daily act of worship
- Parents have the right to withdraw their child from this act of worship
- Collective worship can be a single act of worship or can take place in different age groups or around the school grounds

School Commitment to Worship

- We provide an atmosphere of trust and to celebrate/build upon the values of the ethos of the school through joining together
- We provide opportunities to develop children's spirituality
- Adults and children worship together
- Christian worship is introduced to the children in a meaningful and honest way
- Our acts of worship enable free response from all
- Worship at our school reflects the Ecumenical nature of our community
 - The rector/member of the church leads worship regularly
 - The school gathers in St Mary's church for worship at Harvest, Christmas and Easter and end of school year
- During their time at school the children deepen their understanding of Christian Worship within an Anglican framework in a variety of ways:
 - Using bible reading
 - Reflecting on Christian symbols
 - Use of prayers and hymns
 - Observing key points in the Christian year

Prayers

Prayers at Balcombe School will be carefully chosen/written and used sensitively. Children are encouraged to write their own prayers, which are shared with others during Collective Worship. Traditional Christian prayers will also be learned, namely The Lord's Prayer. Sometimes children will be asked to reflect individually instead of a group prayer.

Organisation and Management

Monday – Led by Head Teacher

Tuesday – Led by Head Teacher, Mr Wilson or Open the Book.

Wednesday – Hymn practice led by teachers

Thursday – Key Stage led by the teachers

Friday – Celebration assembly

Planning

A planned programme for Collective Worship has been devised. Daily acts of worship vary in content but usually consist of music to walk in and out to, a hymn, a focussed input and prayers (either silent or spoken). Time for reflection is an important part of our worship. A range of resources are used for collective worship.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. We request that they do this in writing and would encourage them to discuss this with the head teacher. Any children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship need to be supervised during this time.