

Collective Worship Policy

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Legal Requirements

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires that all schools have a daily act of worship, either together as a whole school or in smaller groups. As a Christian Foundation we follow the traditions and values of the Church of England. In a multi faith society we aim to encourage the children's understanding and respect for other faiths. Worship will be distinctively Christian in character, whilst acknowledging religious and cultural diversity existing in society and the wide beliefs of the local community.

Aims of Collective Worship

During Collective Worship teachers and children come together to pause during a busy school day to:-

- Worship God
- Reflect on their own beliefs
- Develop a spiritual and moral dimension to life
- Discover the value of meditation and silence
- Celebrate the diversity of human life and experience

Implementation

Collective Worship will:-

- Involve the whole school and smaller groups
- Include prayers, songs, stories, drama, silence, the power of the spoken word and create opportunities for spiritual reflection
- Be ecumenical, taking into account a broad range of denominational backgrounds whilst observing Anglican traditions
- Celebrate the achievement, recognising strengths in all areas of school life: sport, music, good work, courtesy, kindness and awards gained outside school
- Be relevant to the age of the children
- Observe the cycle of the Christian year
- Celebrate the major Christian Festivals
- Maintain links with St Mary's Parish Church
- Make use of Christian symbols and artefacts
- Acknowledge the principle festivals of other religions