

Milverton Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

At Milverton Primary School we believe that Collective Worship should:-

- give expression to, reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- strengthen and support the school community and individual members
- provide an experience that promotes the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of pupils
- introduce children to the concept of worship
- provide an opportunity for personal and shared reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- be of a broadly Christian nature
- celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
- foster a respect for self and engender a concern for the needs of others
- explore 'spiritual' themes that are important to us as a school (see Fruits of Milverton)

Legal Framework – School Standards and Framework Act 1998

Responsibility for arranging school worship in community schools rests with the headteacher after consultation with the governing body.

All pupils should take part in a daily act of Collective Worship.

There may be a single act of worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age groups or in different school groups. Collective Worship may be held at any time during the school day, either on or off the school premises, for example Christmas Assembly in the church.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussions with the Headteacher followed by a written confirmation of withdrawal.

The school will provide a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. However, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the Headteacher, have the right to withdraw from the Act of Collective Worship, but the Headteacher maintains statutory accountability.

Collective Worship organised by the school will be of a 'wholly or broadly Christian character' and not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

Structure

In this school worship is organised as follows:-

- A daily assembly for children in KS1 and 2 is led by the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, a Teacher or, in some cases, a visitor from a local place of worship.
- Singing assembly for all children takes place on a Thursday
- Assembly takes place for 15 minutes before morning break
- The general format followed for assemblies is:
 - Music to enter
 - Welcome
 - Main part (story/presentation)
 - Prayer/reflection
 - Song (if included)
 - Music to leave
- Friday assemblies are either certificate assemblies or class assemblies led by children.
- Reception children join in whole school assemblies on a Monday and Friday and singing assembly on a Thursday.

Planning

Collective Worship is planned around weekly themes, appropriate to pupils' aptitude and ability which are decided upon by a named teacher. These themes may link to different festivals and be in response to local, national and international news. They will also link to the 'Fruits of Milverton', a series of spiritual themes which have been chosen by staff and pupils as being important to us at Milverton. The 'Fruits' are as follows: Friendship, Sharing, Respect, Helpfulness, Honesty, Kindness, Creativity, Individuality, Community and Confidence.

Approaches

Collective Worship is first and foremost for the educational and spiritual (see Fruits of Milverton) benefit of pupils. It is a shared activity which allows a variety of responses. It is an inclusive activity which builds links with the broad dimensions of the curriculum. The creation of atmosphere is assisted by appropriate music, visual foci and symbols. Opportunity for reflection and responses, prayer, story, drama and art are also used to appeal to the pupils' imagination.

The school regularly welcomes local community members linked to faith and non-faith organisations to lead assemblies on different themes

Agreed by: _____ Performance and Standards Committee _____

Date Agreed: _____ Spring 2015 _____

Date to be reviewed: _____ Spring 2018 _____