**Milverton Primary School**

**Collective Worship Policy**

**Date published: September 2022**

**Date to be reviewed: September 2025 (Curriculum and Standards Committee)**

The Collective Worship Policy at Milverton Primary School pays due regard to statutory

requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act and the 1996 education Act, which states that

collective worship should be ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’, and in

recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are practicing members of other faiths we

base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths.

The Collective Worship Policy of Milverton Primary School is consonant with the philosophy and

aims of the school as expressed in the school vision and aims. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

**Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together

in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an

opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides

opportunities for the pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

**Aims of Collective Worship**

**For the School:**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Milverton Primary School and it is our

aim that it is a time when the school community can:

* share common aims and values
* celebrate achievement and special times
* explore together the world in which we live
* develop a community spirit

**For the Pupils:**

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a ‘whole’

person by providing opportunities to:

* reflect on that which is considered worthy
* consider spiritual and moral issues
* explore their own beliefs
* develop their own spirituality
* reflect on the direction of their lives
* reinforce positive attitudes
* participate and respond
* reflect on what it means to be human
* consider the wonders and worries of the world
* worship God

**The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Milverton Primary School,

Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the

experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes.

At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line

with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to ‘respond’ on their own level.

**The Management of Collective Worship**

The RE coordinator and headteacher will plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

**The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school

Hall, St Marks Church or the classroom.

Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, class based weekly sessions and RE lessons.

‘Collective Worship’ and ‘Assembly’ are distinct activities, although they may take place as part of the same gathering. Collective worship is a special time for pupils to reflect upon life experiences and ultimate questions and, if appropriate, focus on God. It should allow the pupils to be able to make a spiritual response…Schools often gather for achievement assemblies, singing assemblies and curriculum assemblies. These can be made into an act of collective worship through the addition of an opportunity for reflection or prayer at the end of these times. Without it they stay as an assembly.

Assembly and collective worship times are planned in each week.

The headteacher leads an Assembly on a Monday afternoon, this will be based on the values and ethos of the school, exploring a number of different topics throughout the year.

Children will engage in a singing assembly each week, this will either be with their phase group or as a whole school singing assembly.

Children will take part in two class-based assembly / reflection times, these will explore relevant religious celebrations and common topics or themes across the whole school.

There is a celebration assembly on a Friday sharing positive themes about the children’s success both in and out of school.

**Leadership**

All members of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of

worship at some point in the school year.

**Planning Acts of Collective Worship**

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and

suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly assembly plans include a range of themes, special occasions and events will be followed, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

**The Act of Collective Worship**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in

acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used

effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will

choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude

and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the

individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through

reflection and prayer.

**Withdrawal**

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that

all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.

Parents may choose to withdraw their children from religious aspects of our collective worship. Should you wish for your child to not be included in our Assembly time please contact the headteacher to discuss your concerns and request.