Collective Acts of Worship Policy

Approval Date: October 2019

Review Date: November 2028

Headteacher: ……

Three Bridges Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at Three Bridges 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, 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 practising 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 Three Bridges Primary School is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus. 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 Three Bridges 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:

- undertake worship;
- 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.

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Three Bridges 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 practise. 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 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, or classrooms as appropriate.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 10 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, RE and PHSE lessons.

Leadership

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year. Newly qualified teachers will lead Collective Worship in their own class only.

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 planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly planning and recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

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

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made.

Withdrawal
Our assemblies will be conducted in a sensitive and inclusive manner so as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly. It will therefore not be necessary for children to be withdrawn from assemblies or acts of Collective Worship.

Previous Collective Worship Policy Approved as New Policy June 2017