

# Meadow Lane Infants School Policy



## Policy for Collective Worship

<b>Last reviewed</b>	<b>March 2017</b>
<b>Review Cycle</b>	<b>2 Years</b>

## Meadow Lane Infant School

### Collective Worship Policy

#### Introduction

At Meadow Lane Infant School we embrace collective worship with enthusiasm and enjoyment. We believe it gives pupils and staff an opportunity to reflect and celebrate the ethos of the school. Collective Worship at our school complies with legal requirements as set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The law states that there must be a daily act of Collective worship. This must be mainly of a broadly Christian character, which means that it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief, although it need not contain purely Christian material. It is a key time to celebrate the worth and value of every single person in the school community.

#### Aims

The aim of Collective Worship at Meadow Lane Infant School is:

- To promote and develop the school values which underpin the life of the school.
- To contribute to opportunities which the school provides for the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of pupils.
- To provide opportunities for pupils and staff to share, celebrate, and express their beliefs, and to reflect together.

In the light of these aims, Collective Worship should:

- Be pupil centred - related to their own experiences.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm those present, whatever their faith or non-faith background – it should respect the integrity of pupils and teachers.
- Involve those present as active participants.
- Foster a sense of community – a sense of shared values, identity, outlook, ethos and purpose.
- Provide a breathing space in the busy whirl of school activity, a time to gather, be still and reflect, a time to refresh the spirit.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to consider questions about God and responses to belief in God.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to experience awe and wonder.
- Provide an atmosphere conducive to allow worship to take place – music, a visual focus, an appropriate setting all helping to create this special atmosphere, a sense of occasion.
- Provide pupils with opportunities for reflection on the significance of the spiritual dimension of their own and other people's lives – through, for example, listening to music, hearing from others, listening to words from the sacred writings of different traditions, prayer and meditation.
- Be open enough for pupils to respond to the spiritual dimension, while accepting that some pupils will make no personal response.
- Recognise key dates in the Christian and multi-faith calendar.

#### Planning

At Meadow Lane Infant School Collective Worship is a learning experience of real quality, properly planned, prepared and executed.

Planning for Collective Worship needs to:

- Offer a variety of experiences.
- Celebrate the successes and share the disappointments of the school community.
- Be open – broadening and deepening knowledge and understanding of the issues being focused upon.

Planning for collective worship is the collaborative responsibility of the Staff Team. Themes for Collective Worship are planned on a termly basis with some flexibility built in to enable us to react to world events if necessary.

Collective worship is properly resourced in terms of time, books and music.

## Organisation

Whole school Collective Worship is offered every day. Visitors lead Collective Worship on a planned basis. All teaching staff lead the acts of Collective Worship.

## Resources

- Timetable displayed on staff display board in the staffroom including, focus for Collective Worship.
- A wide range of books offering stories and themes in the staff library in the leadership room.
- Artefact boxes covering major world faiths are available.
- Selection of religious books including bibles, prayer books and books from other faiths.
- Music CDs in the hall.

## Equal Opportunities and Special Educational Needs

Collective Worship will be all-inclusive, accessible to all children regardless of gender or educational needs.

## Withdrawal

The main aim of Collective Worship is for it to be meaningful for all pupils, whether from a faith background or not. It is therefore hoped that parents will not feel the need to withdraw their children. However, we fully understand that withdrawal from Collective Worship is their right and alternative provision will be provided if this is the case. The Head teacher will meet with parents or carers who wish to act on their right for withdrawal and organise supervision for the children.

Signed: .....Head teacher

Signed: .....Chair of P&P