

Earlsmead Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Policy summary	This policy illustrates how we fulfil our duty under the Education Reform Act 1988 that requires all children to attend a daily act of collective worship.
Affects	Staff, Volunteers, Pupils, Parents & Carers
Drafted by	Hina Shah
Approved by	Governing Body
Last approved revision date	March 2021
Next review date	March 2024
Related policies, procedures and forms	PSHE, Inclusion, Teaching and Learning, Equal Opportunities

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires all children in our school to attend a daily act of Collective Worship. It is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, after consultation with the Governing Body, to arrange for this to take place. Parents may choose to have their child withdrawn from Collective Worship and it is the responsibility of the school to arrange supervision for any child withdrawn.

The Collective Worship should be broadly Christian in nature. The Collective Worship should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief, but should not be denominational, doctrinaire or resemble a church service. Material/themes from traditions other than Christianity will be included. Our values form the basis of all assemblies and these are the foundations of all faiths.

OUR APPROACH

We interpret these traditions through several broad themes with many cross-curricular links. These themes may contain religious concepts and attitudes central to the life of Jesus Christ and the Christian church as well as many aspects of life and experience.

CONTENT

The thematic content is carefully planned, so that it is interesting and relevant to the experience, social and cultural background of all our children. The children are involved and participate as much as possible.

Collective Worship is an important means by which the collective values and ethos of the school can be celebrated. These values provide a framework for the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

OPPORTUNITIES

Collective Worship provides opportunities for the children to:

- ◆ Consider spiritual and moral issues
- ◆ Explore their own beliefs
- ◆ Actively participate and respond
- ◆ Develop a sense of community
- ◆ Share in promoting the values and ethos of the school
- ◆ Promote positive attitudes and celebrate achievement

PLANNING

Collective Worship follows the cycle of School values, the RE theme of festivals and significant events and is developed over a half term so that it is broad, balanced, relevant to the children and appropriate to the needs of the school community.

It is the responsibility of the RE Leader to plan for Collective Worship in collaboration with the Headteacher.

On a weekly basis, all teachers use resources and planning materials supplied by Picture News to support their delivery of a class based assembly. This also enables a focus on British Values.

DELIVERY

Collective Worship takes place daily during Assemblies. Assembly times vary and take place as a whole school, key stage or are class based. They are as follows:

Day	ASSEMBLY	Attendance
Monday	Whole school – Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher: 9.10	Whole school (suspended during the pandemic)
Tuesday	KS 2 Good Work Assembly: 9.10	KS2 in the hall
	KS1 Picture News Assembly in class: 10.15	Class based
Wednesday	KS1 Good Work Assembly: 10.10	KS1 in the hall
	KS2 Picture News Assembly in class: 9.10	Class based
Thursday	Whole school Music assembly	Whole school (suspended during pandemic)
Friday	Class Assemblies	Whole School (suspended during pandemic)

Please note that during the pandemic assemblies take place daily in classrooms. The exception is when once a week there is a Year Group assembly in the hall led by the SLT lead for that year group.

All Collective Worship is for the whole school, except Reception and Nursery. Children should arrive promptly and quietly in the hall. Collective Worship will begin and end on time. Children exit quietly from the hall and go straight out to play afterwards.

A 'SPECIAL TIME'

The children are encouraged to view Collective Worship as a 'special time' in the day, which they look, listen and reflect together as a school community. This is promoted by appropriate music to create an atmosphere and by the content of the session. Towards the end of the time, there is an opportunity for the children to sit quietly and reflect on what has been shown and talked about. Lighting a candle or looking at a special picture or object may encourage this.

The content is made as interesting as possible by having a variety of stimuli (pictures, objects, story props etc) and by using story, drama, songs etc and the children are encouraged to lead and participate. This should make a significant contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral development.

Collective Worship is given a high profile through the use of display boards in the hall near to the 'Assembly Table', which has a display of the current week's theme or Festival.

Earlsmead's Values:

September:	Confidence
October:	Respect <i>(Diwali (Hindu), Harvest Festival,)(Black History Month)</i>
November:	Tolerance <i>(Guru Nanak's Birthday (Sikhism))</i>
December:	Kindness <i>(Christmas, Advent)</i>
January:	Ambition <i>(New Year, Chinese New Year)</i>
February:	Resilience <i>(Shrove Tuesday, Lent, Holi (Hindu), Purim (Jewish))</i>
March:	Honesty <i>(Ramadan (Muslim))</i>
April:	Forgiveness <i>(Easter, St Georges Day, Passover (Jewish))</i>
May:	Independence <i>(Vesak (Buddhist), Pentecost (Jewish))</i>
June:	Creativity
July:	Inclusivity