



# **Great Bedwyn C.E. School**

## **Collective Worship**

### **Policy**

*“Together may we give our children – roots to grow and wings to fly”*

Date of approval July 24

Approved by Academy Committee

Review date July 27

## Objective

In considering the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development our objective is to provide high quality worship that provides a unique space for stillness and reflection within the context of the school day.

## Aims

As a church school, our worship will always be based on the Christian faith but will include reference to other faiths and belief systems.

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to help children become more sensitive to the wonders and mysteries of the world around them.
- to help children to reflect on their own existence and the puzzling questions which life poses.
- to encourage children to encounter various kinds of language and symbols and to express their own feelings through them.
- strengthen and support the school and wider community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God.
- give expression to reaffirm and practise the values of the school community.
- allow reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.
- celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others – a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others.
- respect and awareness of the diversity of belief within our own society and across the world.
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to:
  - ✚ praise and reach out to God.
  - ✚ experience stillness and quiet
  - ✚ respond to Christian language and symbolism.
  - ✚ experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include: praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others, and quiet reflection.
  - ✚ helping pupils begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship.

## Approach

- a) Worship will seek to build links with all dimensions of the curriculum, particularly making global links to promote equality and links to PSHE and other planned learning.
- b) Opportunity will be given for pupils to reflect individually on spiritual issues.
- c) Worship is accessible to all children who attend – where possible worship is tailored so that all children can understand and make a contribution.

## Organisation of collective worship

We conduct collective worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that collective worship is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We expect them to be quiet and thoughtful and to actively listen to the teachings and to participate fully in prayer, reflection, discussion and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, lighting the candle, and other aids to help children focus.

Daily acts of worship occur for the whole school throughout the week, with different leaders. Our children regularly take part in church services and the local Church of England Vicar comes in to lead Worship in school. .

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	<b>Collective Worship</b>	<b>Collective Worship</b>	<b>Singing Worship</b>	<b>Collective Worship</b>	<b>Celebration Collective Worship</b>
<b>Where?</b>	Hall	Hall	Hall	Hall	Hall
<b>Who?</b>	Principal/ Deputy Principal	Open The Book/Ralph Kennington	S Hines	Rev' Jo	Principal & Class teachers
<b>When?</b>	9am	9am	9am	8:50am	2.45 pm

It is our policy that our Collective Worship should take a variety of forms including:

- (a) Whole school led by the Principal or a member of the teaching staff.
- (b) Pupil led through the Worship Committee, where pupils on a voluntary basis plan and lead the Collective Worship through talk, story, poem, reflection on the Collective Worship theme followed by hymns. (Yr4 Worship monitors)
- (c) Sharing – individual children share their successes both social and academic with the whole school and parents.
- (d) Led by visitors, e.g. community members, special guest, parents.

### Evaluation

At Great Bedwyn all acts of worship are planned. The Subject Leaders monitor Collective Worship and pupils reflect on the message shared.

### Collective Acts of Worship

Themes will link with the planning cycle, Values and our planned PSHE curriculum to ensure continuity. The Calendar of Festival dates will also be taken into consideration.

### Monitoring

The Collective Worship will be monitored by:

1. Discussion at staff and Academy Committee meetings. This discussion will include:
  - Review of content;
  - Links to curriculum and classroom experience;

- Resources and budget;
  - INSET
2. Attendance at worship by foundation governors for monitoring purposes ensuring that the requirements of law are being met.

### **Resources**

Role play, appropriate media resources, power points, books and artefacts may be used during the Collective Worship. Visitors leading an act of worship will be given precise instructions concerning age and ability of pupils, purpose of occasion and appropriate delivery (content and material used).

### **Right of Withdrawal**

Parents retain the right to withdraw their children. Parents wishing to exercise this right should put their requests in writing to the Principal. Teachers' rights are also safeguarded.

### **Responsibility for Review**

Collective worship lead – Alan McArtney

Foundation Governor – Richard Barker