



Brewood CE (C) Middle School
School Road
Brewood
Staffs. ST19 9DS
Tel: 01902 850266

Brewood and Wheaton Aston Federation

email: headteacher@brewood.staffs.sch.uk



St. Mary's CE (C) First School
Marston Road,
Wheaton Aston
Staffs ST19 9PQ
Tel: 01785 840314

POLICY STATEMENT

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

General Principle/Mission Statement

At Brewood CE (C) Middle School and St Mary's CE (C) First School, we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. It is an opportunity to promote the Christian foundation of our school, to celebrate and support all aspects of school life and to provide time for stillness and reflection in what is often a very busy, active day for our children. It offers the whole school community opportunities to experience and reflect on the work and worth of our school. This is set within the context of the corporate community of our school, which values and affirms every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, sex, ability, background or religion.

Legal Requirements

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils and the nature of the collective worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. Our daily act of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school. This requires worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England.

DFES legislation states: Worship will be: appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of the pupils; provided in a variety of settings, groupings and timings, with a variety of leaders.

We recognise the right of withdrawal from Worship for pupils, at the request of parents and for staff. Withdrawn children gather together where a member of staff supervises them. These children rejoin the rest of the school once Collective Worship is over and assembly has begun.

Aims of Collective Worship

For worship:

- to enhance the spiritual development and response of pupils,
- to foster reflection, meditation, prayer and silence,
- to foster empathy and imagination, enabling pupils to participate in a variety of ways,
- to explore and enjoy praise, prayer and the rituals of Christianity (the Anglican tradition in particular),
- to affirm the Christian faith and the Christian statutes of Jesus as Son of God,
- to enable pupils to reflect on the experiences of Christian believers,

- to foster and value a search for a faith to live by,
- to learn about and reflect upon Christian teachings, biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that relates to the pupils' experience and to living together in a community,
- to worship together rather than apart (whilst taking into account the multi-cultural nature of every school), and
- to provide an evocative setting for worship, for pupils and staff and appropriate resources, including a spiritual focus.

For assembly:

- to recognise the beliefs and culture of others, particularly those represented in the school community,
- to develop a sense of community and shared values,
- to consider the needs of others and to foster charitable works,
- to be challenging and inspiring,
- to celebrate the highest achievements of members of the school that are held to be of worth (usually at Special weekly Celebration Assemblies), and
- to foster a thought-provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response.

Each class at Brewood CE Middle will have the opportunity to present one class worship to the school during a school year. At St Mary's this is carried out each term.

Management

The foundation governors have a responsibility to ensure the Trust Deed of the school is honoured, in conjunction with the governing body, Executive Head teacher, staff and school community. The Worship Policy created articulates the management and delivery of this area of the curriculum.

The Worship Co-ordinator has responsibility for managing this area of the curriculum on a day-to-day basis, ensuring all legal requirements are complied with. This involves the production of a coherent programme for Collective Worship, which has continuity of Christian teaching and experience and such breadth and balance as is appropriate to the school community.

Records of content are kept centrally for whole school worship and it is the responsibility of the Heads of Key Stage (at Brewood) or Deputy Headteacher (at St Mary's) to liaise with the Worship Co-ordinator (Executive Headteacher), so that full records and knowledge of the actual implementation of the worship programme are ensured.

The Worship Co-ordinator also has responsibility for auditing and keeping records of resources and ensuring they are accessible to pupils and staff as appropriate. An equitable budget needs to be negotiated to ensure the worship programme can be carried out effectively.

The Worship Co-ordinator also keeps in touch with developments in the subject and acts in an advisory capacity to colleagues, ensuring that worship is prioritised on the School Development Plan, to allow for INSET and resource development.

Monitoring the quality of Collective Worship is an ongoing process. This needs to be managed on a weekly/termly basis to ensure that effective review can take place.

CONTENT

In the main, the planned focus for Worship reflects the Christian church year at a simple level with festivals, commemorations and celebrations. It also reflects the natural world through the year.

Work on the Religious Education Curriculum can be supported in Collective Worship by the inclusion of a focus for Worship from each area of the Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education wherever appropriate.

Special days or events from other religions may be included for the children's educational value and for the enrichment of spirituality. However, participation and response to a focus from another religion is expected purely at an objective level.

The focus for any particular unit can be established during Whole School Worship and subsequently developed and explored at a level appropriate to the pupil's interest and ability in different Key Stage groups. For the younger pupils where shorter themes are appropriate, the change of venue, leader and grouping can support their involvement with a chosen focus.

At any time the planned focus could be waived in favour of a focus based on an unusual national, local or personal event. Spontaneity gives an extra dimension to worship and breathes life into ritual.

Class led Worship gives an opportunity for us to celebrate achievement in learning. This is not restricted simply to academic learning. It is a time to reflect upon the quality of individual learning and the breadth of growth as a whole person.

Withdrawal of pupils from Worship

Children who are withdrawn from Worship will be given the opportunity to work on some aspects of their own religion. They will be brought back into the hall in time for the main Assembly gathering to hear the day's notices. This will enable them to keep up to date with activities and events of the school.

To be reviewed annually in Summer Term

Signed
Chair of Governors

Dated 16/2/17

Appendix 1

Collective Worship Rota at Brewood CE (C) Middle

Monday	Whole school mainly led by the Executive Headteacher but may be led by the Deputy / Assistant Head Teacher or a Church representative
Tuesday	Class Worship
Wednesday	Class Prayer and Reflection
Thursday	'Sing Up' (Prayer and Praise)
Friday	Celebration Praise led by Head Teacher

Worship in Church with the Vicar or Lay Reader at the beginning and end of every half term

Additional Celebration Praise gatherings are held throughout the year.

Collective Worship Rota at St Mary's CE (C) First

Monday - Whole School Worship - led by Deputy Headteacher or Vicar

Wednesday, prayer & praise - Led by Deputy Headteacher

Thursday Celebration Worship and Class Assembly time - Celebration Assembly may be led by the Deputy Headteacher or Vicar

Class Worship is carried out by staff on days not itemised

Appendix 2

Class Worship - 10 Step Checklist - Brewood CE Middle School

Please remember that the Assembly should be of a high standard and that Parents / other visitors will form an impression of our school based on the quality of what is seen and heard.

(please ✓ to help you with your planning for this)

- Please make sure you give parents ample time in advance via an invitation letter so they can plan absence for work/commitments. ☐
- Please try and link your Class Assembly with a Worship theme outlined in your folder for that week (if you want to discuss this further please talk to DS). Encourage pupils to write their own words and to contribute towards the presentation eg. by producing a short play or sketch, or powerpoint etc. check for spellings!! Give them time to practice and learn their lines. Any prompts - ie. words should be well produced - not on scrappy bits of paper. ☐
- Consider resources ie projector/screen, microphones / sound system, props etc. ☐
- Consider asking a member of SLT to watch it beforehand to help you. ☐
- Consider music to be played on the way in/out of the hall. ☐
- Please make sure you include hymn(s). Please let a member of SLT or whoever leads 'Sing Up' know at least a week in advance so that they can be practised and that a child stands up and announces the hymn number. ☐
- Please include a prayer and make sure that a child asks everyone before reading it to put hands together and close their eyes. If possible ask for an adult to light a candle during the prayer time. ☐
- Please consider the sound quality in the hall. Not all children can or are able to project their voice. You must use the microphones, if in doubt ask. (Equipment is in PE Store area). Let children practice with the microphones (See ST - AV Technician). ☐
- Hall organisation - please ask Alan Marston in advance and tell him how you would like benches and parent seating arranged. ☐

Thank you

DS

/10

Monday Come & Praise books may be requested	9:00am	Whole School - Hall - Weekly Worship Theme
Tuesday	9:00am	Class Worship
Wednesday	9:00 - 9:30am	Class Prayer and Reflection
Thursday	9:00am	'Sing Up' Prayer and Praise
Friday No hymn books needed	9:00am	Celebration Praise

Updated May 2016