

INKBERROW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Love to learn, learn to care

We aspire for all our children to become confident, secure, caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning.

Collective Worship Policy



Written By	Glenn Duggan-Seville
Reviewed By/On	C&Q Committee on 02/11/2020
Approved By/On	Full LGB on 16/11/2020
Next Review Required	Autumn Term 2024

Definition of Collective Worship

For the purpose of this policy, 'Collective Worship' is an act which is additional to, and separate from, ordinary school activities. Collective Worship is a time when individuals collaborate to promote the values which are fundamental to the school's ethos.

To 'take part' in Collective Worship implies more than a passive attendance, such as it should have the ability to elicit responses from pupils even though they may not be able to actively identify an act of worship on a particular occasion.

Statement of Intent

This policy has been written in collaboration with the Governing Body.

All pupils at Inkberrow Primary School are required to take part in daily Collective Worship where they are given the opportunity to explore their own beliefs and consider a range of spiritual and moral issues. This may take place in many places in the school, ranging from: the school hall, in the classroom, outdoors, places in the community and beyond.

At Inkberrow Primary School, the daily act of worship is considered an integral and important part of school life. In accordance with The School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the daily act of Collective Worship will be "wholly or broadly Christian in character, though not representative of a particular denomination. We strongly encourage the reflections and teaching about other faiths and faith leaders from the community and beyond."

All pupils are encouraged to learn about the beliefs of others in addition to their own as part of the Religious Education Local Agreed Syllabus.

Collective Worship is provided in a given time within the school timetable. This may be in the form of an assembly or a coming together of people within a class or Key Stage.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to statutory regulation, including, but not limited to, The School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

This policy has due regard to Clauses 2.U to 2.X of the Inkberrow Primary School Funding Agreement, a copy of which is available on the Avonreach Academy Trust website.

The policy also has due regard to guidance, including but not limited to, DfE (1994) 'Religious Education and Collective Worship.'

Policy Aims:

- To provide opportunities for the children to engage in an act of worship
- To contribute to a sense of unity and community for the school as a whole
- To reflect on the values and concerns of the wider community it serves
- To promote a wide range of Spiritual, Cultural, Social and Moral (SMSC) development
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response
- To celebrate personal and school achievements
- To develop a sense of self-worth and the value of others

- To promote school values
- To promote fundamental British Values
- To enable children to gain insight into the ways people express themselves within their faith commitment

Organisation and Planning

- The Head Teacher is responsible for creating the agenda for Collective Worship in discussion with the Governing Body
- Each assembly will have a theme from a variety of sources linked to SMSC.
- The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to all pupils
- There will be a range of stories and songs from different cultures used to promote a wider understanding of different forms of worship
- The Head Teacher and staff normally lead assemblies, but local Clergy or representatives of the local community may be invited into school to lead assemblies
- Every opportunity should be given to invite a range of faith leaders in to talk to the children
- There should be opportunities for other organisations to come in and talk to the children, for example, charities.
- The songs within Collective Worship sessions will be a mixture of both secular and religious songs.

Weekly Collective Worship Programme

The school aims to deliver a range of varied collective programmes to pupils. The current schedule is outlined in the table below:

Day of the Week	Delivery of Programme
Monday	Whole School Singing Assembly Story
Tuesday	Whole School Assembly led by staff <i>Programme written by RE Lead</i>
Wednesday	Church Assembly <i>Led by the members of the local Church</i>
Thursday	Class Collective Worship <i>Story and reflection on an SMSC focus</i>
Friday	'Star of the Week' <i>Once a month this will be a Sharing of achievements out of school</i>

Implementation

At Inkberrow Primary School, all assemblies / Collective Worship are based on the principle that they should:

- Be acceptable to the whole school community

- Include a variety of elements at different times (religious events, special days, special events in the life of the school, topics being undertaken) and are linked to the religious calendars of the year
- Involve the pupils
- Contribute to the SMSC development of the children.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell the children that this is a period of calm and reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in a certain way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully and participate fully in reflection and singing.

Assemblies enable children to reflect on matters of importance and offer them the chance to respond through a variety of activities, songs, music making, hymns, drama, role-play, the visual arts, silent prayer and discussion.

It is important to state that children will be given the option to give thanks or thought to whichever God they wish to pray to. The children will be given the option to join in with giving thanks or to sit in silent reflection.

Right of Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a sensitive and inclusive manner to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend assemblies. However, any parent / carer can request permission for their children to be excused from attending religious worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so. Staff, equally, have the right to withdraw from Collective Worship.

Parents / Carers will be encouraged to discuss their decision with the Head Teacher following a request of withdrawal in terms of:

- The element of worship in which the parent / carer would object to the pupil taking part
- The practical implications of withdrawal
- Whether the parents / carers will require notice in advance of such worship, and if so, what period of notice is preferred

Withdrawal of a pupil usually involves their physical absence; however, if it is agreed so between the Head Teacher and parent / carer, the pupil may remain in the Collective Worship but will not be involved in any discussion.

The class teacher will arrange alternative provision for any pupil who is withdrawn from Collective Worship; this may involve religious worship relevant to a particular faith or denomination provided that such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school

The alternative provision would be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum.

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

The school will take into account pupils ages and abilities when delivering the Collective Worship Programme.

The teacher will arrange for Teaching Assistants to assist pupils with SEND if the need arises

Monitoring and Review

The policy will be reviewed on a 4 year cycle in line with other curriculum policies in agreement with the Governing Body

Any changes made to this policy and the Collective Worship programme will be communicated to all members of staff.