Collective Worship Policy

Intent statement

The curriculum at Primet Primary school will ensure that all learners leave school as resilient and confident individuals, who lead healthy and happy lives. Our core values of kindness, respect and trust influence the actions and decisions made by the entire school community.

Through an enriched and bespoke curriculum that utilises the local and wider community, pupils will be ambitious with high aspirations for themselves and others. Pupils appreciate and celebrate the school's diverse community, demonstrating spiritual, moral and cultural awareness and understanding. They will be well-prepared for the world of work, through the acquisition of the knowledge and skills necessary to become fully literate and numerate. Pupils will be active enquirers, who possess the creativity and ability to think critically to solve problems and make connections in an ever-changing world. With a growth mindset, pupils are prepared to take risks. They see mistakes as a learning opportunity and challenge as an enjoyable struggle.

As emotionally intelligent individuals, pupils will have an understanding of their own and others' needs, which will equip them to take responsibilities and lead at a local, national and global level.

Throughout Primet Primary school we have pupils from a wide range of backgrounds. The majority of our pupils are either Christians, Muslims or those of no faith. As a school, we aim to celebrate the diverse range of backgrounds our pupils have, whilst encouraging all children to be tolerant and accepting of all religions. We encourage children to embrace the differences in the community and be more accepting of the beliefs of others. Through the use of Collective Worship, we can foster an awareness of the differences not only within our school, but the community and the wider world.

The Collective Worship Policy at Primet Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Primet Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship God
- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Primet Primary School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Worship Co-ordinator (Emma Richards), headteacher and deputy head form the worship team. The role of the team will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall, or one of the multi purpose rooms, or the classroom. Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership

The worship team and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly planning and recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Primet Primary School.

Leaders from faiths and non-religious groups within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these traditions.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer. If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of

worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (A change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc.)

Withdrawal

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their child from any act or acts of Collective Worship. Those wishing to make such a request are encouraged to discuss with the head teacher: (a) any particular concerns they may have and (b) practical arrangements for the withdrawal.