



Philosophy

At Wilburton CE Primary School worship is an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community.

We recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity for our pupils Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

Aims

It is our aim at Wilburton CE Primary School that worship should:

- 'engage all';
- contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child;
- give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school's Christian ethos;
- allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings;
- celebrate and give thanks for the 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 of others;
- provide members of the school with the opportunity to give praise to God;
- provide members of the school with the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet;
- provide members of the school with the opportunity to understand Christian language and symbolism;
- provide members of the school with the opportunity to experience a variety of forms of prayer and join in with worship songs;
- to help pupils to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship;
- provide members of the wider school community to worship together with the pupils and staff.

Legal requirements of Collective Worship

- ***It must be daily for all pupils of statutory school age***
The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that 'all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship'.
- ***It must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character***
All acts of worship are in accordance with the guidance issued in Circular 1/94 which states that worship should be of a 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' and not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.
- ***It can take place at any time of day and be of any length***
Collective Worship may be held at any time during the school day and for any amount of time.
- ***It can take place within groups or for the whole school***
To provide pupils with variety in their experience of worship, acts of worship may take the form of gathering as a whole school or separate acts of worship for pupils in different classes.

Organisation

The responsibility for arranging Collective Worship in our school rests with the Deputy Head teacher. All pupils attend a daily act of Collective Worship, where we gather as a whole school or in age groups.

The school recognises that there is a difference between Acts of Collective Worship and the assembly time. On some occasions assembly may precede or follow an Act of Collective Worship. When this happens the transition from assembly to worship will be marked in some suitable way e.g. the lighting of a candle or reflecting on an image, moment of silence, a prayer or a reflection etc.

By broadly Christian in this school we mean that: -

- Worship contains some elements that accord special status to Jesus, his teachings and actions.
- Sharing with pupils the Christian belief that all Christians are followers of Jesus and that they believe in continuing Jesus' example through the exploration of key Christian concepts such as love, trust, forgiveness, truthfulness, respect and value of an individual.

Weekly organisation for whole school collective worship:

Day	Person Leading	Content
Monday	Head Teacher	Introduce the theme
Tuesday	Teachers (in class)	Bible story (Big picture of Christianity)
Wednesday	Deputy Head	Exploring British and Christian values through the news
Thursday	Head	Worship through song
Friday	Head and Deputy	Whole School - <i>Celebration</i>

Structure of all Collective Worship sessions:

- Greeting: Leader: (Light the candle) eg *The Lord be with you* Response: *And also with you.*
- Engaging: Bible stories, stories about Christians in the present, story from the news. Use drama, song, images, videos, interview
- Responding: Spend time reflecting on the message. Sing, pray, quiet time, whole school or individually
- Sending: Listen to music, sing as leaving, give a blessing. Call and response.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Wilburton CE Primary School we seek to be inclusive, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the head teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

The school has a system of suitable supervision for pupils withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. All staff have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship. This right of withdrawal doesn't extend to assemblies.

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Collective Worship is treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation.

The content and methodology of Collective Worship is varied with ongoing evaluation.

Each half term there is a theme for Collective Worship. By the end of each half-term the pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints.

This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that the head teacher and teachers may feel that they need to respond to local or national events.

Monitoring

During the course of the year, a foundation governor will discuss Collective Worship and how it promotes SMSC development. The deputy will observe Collective Worship led by the teachers once per half term. A team of children will also monitor Collective Worship across the year.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.