



HYLAND HOUSE SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Ratified by governors Sep 2023

Review date: Sep 2024

Collective Worship Policy

At Hyland House School there is a daily act of collective worship (CW) in line with the statutory requirements and our school's denominational ethos and description. This is an opportunity for everyone in the school to share in celebration and reflection. CW is seen as a very special time of day when the school can be together and the children have a chance to be still and think about their lives.

The School Chaplain and the Headteacher are responsible for ensuring that the daily act of CW takes place and that it is Christian in nature, but also has due regard for the other faiths represented in our school.

Aims of Collective Worship

- Reinforce our spiritual ethos
- To foster reflection, contemplation, silence and worship
- To celebrate life, family, community
- To celebrate our achievements
- To promote a sense of community, whole school ethos
- To recognise, respect and celebrate other cultures and faiths represented in school
- To foster a sense of awe and wonder
- To develop empathy and care for others
- To instil a sense of individual responsibility towards each other and society
- To develop our spiritual and moral awareness and values

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from attendance at CW, but should meet to discuss this with the Headteacher. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing.

What form does CW take?

CW may involve a variety of activities/events which promote the above aims and may include:

- Story telling (moral, religious)
- Prayer, reflection, quiet time
- Music, singing

- Drama, dance, poetry
- Using a visual stimulus, IT
- Listening to visiting religious leaders/faith groups

CW may involve the whole school, key stages or year /class groups. When CW takes the form of a celebration of a class's learning parents may be invited.

Themes for Collective Worship

Generally, there is a main theme for each month, and this often links to the school's Values education programme.

Major religious festivals e.g. Christmas, Easter will be celebrated in line with the faith groups represented within the school.

Themes may link to topical events e.g. Olympics, a natural disaster, sustainable development.

Other themes may include:

- Behaviour and responsibility – in school, society, our community, citizenship, caring, sharing, forgiveness.
- Famous people – of courage, self-sacrifice e.g. saints, Martin Luther King, Anne Frank, etc
- Celebration of life – new life, birthdays, family, weddings, seasons, festivals
- Stories/themes from major faiths – their symbols, teachings, special events, worship
- The world and our environment – sustainable living, climate change, global citizenship, caring for the planet, wildlife etc
- Questions about life and death, why we are here, feelings and emotions, war, peace, creation, change, time.

The Collective Worship policy is reviewed bi-annually.