

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



Policy adopted:	April 2011
Date of last review:	January 2017
Date of next review:	January 2020
Type of policy:	Non- Statutory / LMS
Frequency of review:	3 years
Governor committee:	Curriculum Committee

LONG MEADOW SCHOOL
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Definition of Collective Worship

Worship is a celebration of our individual and collective experiences. Collective worship is a time to affirm and reflect upon what is of highest worth or concern in our school community. Collective worship at Long Meadow School takes place daily within whole-school, key stage and class assemblies.

Aims of Collective Worship Policy

The aim of the collective worship policy at Long Meadow is to provide the opportunity for pupils and staff to:

- Share our individual experiences about living and responding to the world.
- Share our different insights, beliefs and practices to enrich the lives of our community.
- Encourage a sensitive response towards questions and answers that prompt reflection and enquiry to what lies beyond the visible.
- Encourage children to widen their emotional response and deepen their ability to be sensitive to sincerely held spiritual beliefs.
- Understand and respect the language and nature of worship.
- Provide the opportunity to celebrate the values and worth of the school community.

Collective worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. We aim to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.

Statutory duty of the school

The Headteacher is responsible for arranging the daily act of worship, following consultation with the governing body. Daily collective worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, shows respect to a divine being and allows an active response from the pupils. Collective worship is provided for all pupils in the daily assembly.

Right of withdrawal

As stated in the school prospectus, parents have the right to withdraw children from the act of collective worship. The school will comply with this request until the request is withdrawn. The headteacher will clarify with parents:

- The practical implications of withdrawal
- The circumstances in which it would be reasonable to accommodate parents' wishes

Implementation of the Collective Worship Policy

Organisation of collective worship at Long Meadow:

Monday – The theme of the week is introduced by the headteacher. A song or hymn is sometimes included and a prayer or reflection time on the theme.

Tuesday - Key Stage Assembly. The EY/KS1 assembly uses a Bible or faith story to follow up the theme for the week. A time for reflection is included. The KS2 assembly consists of a SEAL/BLP theme to reflect the BLP theme for the half term in year groups.

Wednesday – Singing Assembly. A hymn or relevant songs are learnt or practised and sung together. This includes time for reflection on the words of a song or a prayer.

Thursday – Key Stage Assembly. The EY/KS1 assembly consists of a SEAL/BLP theme to reflect the BLP theme for the half term in year groups. A time for reflection is included. The KS2 assembly uses a Bible or faith story to follow up the theme for the week.

Friday – Whole School Celebration Assembly. This is to share success and reward those children who have been following the Golden Rules. Birthdays are also celebrated at the assembly.

Class assemblies – each class also presents a class assembly to parents and other children in the key stage once a year. Siblings in other key stages are invited to attend. This usually takes place on a Tuesday or a Thursday.

Collective worship, whether as part of whole school or class time, will:

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- Include a variety of elements at different times
- Involve the pupils

Visitors are sometimes invited in to lead assemblies. Regular visitors include Rev Mike Morris (Watling Valley Ecumenical Partnership of Churches) and Rachel Foster (Bridge Builder Trust)

Ways in which the pupils can respond to Collective Worship:

- Song
- Prayer
- Reflection
- Listening to music
- Dance
- Art
- Poetry
- Mime/drama
- Silence

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review of Collective Worship Policy

The implementation and effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed every three years, with input from staff and pupils. Collective worship will be monitored through regular visits by Governors and assessed against the aims of the policy. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Policy written April 2011 – GS

Policy reviewed November 2014 – SD

Policy reviewed January 2017 - SD