



Rangeworthy
Church of England Primary School
"LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE"



RANGEWORTHY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Rationale

Collective Worship which is invitational, inclusive and inspirational is central to the life and purpose of the Church school and aims to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and explore their own beliefs; 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 attitudes.

Collective Worship provides a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story, the mutual giving and receiving of worth as well as times of reflection and prayer. At its best, Collective Worship is inspirational, inclusive and inspirational.

The Church school is a community which is inspired by the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. God the Father, the source of all being and life; God the Son, who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection; and God the Holy Spirit, who makes Christ known in the world.

Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of Collective Worship for all pupils that takes account of their age and aptitude. The 1988 Education Reform Act states parents have the right to withdraw children from Collective Worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. However, as Collective Worship occupies such a central place in the life of the Church school, there is an expectation that parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the head teacher to discuss their concerns and requirements.

The governors in a Church school have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact worship on the school community in consultation with the head teacher.

Aims

- To provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to respond to the presence, power and peace of God.
- To evoke a sense of beauty, awe and wonder.
- To enable children to become familiar with the Bible and grow in their appreciation that for Christians it is God's word.
- To provide opportunities for reflection, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality.
- To help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.

- To explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory focii and introduce them to some well-known Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes.
- To offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship.
- To strengthen and support the school community, giving expression to, and reaffirming, the core Christian values which underpin the school's vision (respect, responsibility and friendship), policies, curriculum and moral code.
- To develop a sense of self-worth and celebrate the gifts that each child and adult brings to the school community (Let Your Light Shine), recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God
- To reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and learn to appreciate the significance of mystery i.e. that we can't understand and explain everything
- To foster a concern for others within the school community and wider world and for pupils to think as global citizens by making sense of world marked by division, conflict, environmental change, extreme inequality and poverty.
- To give children experience of being active members of a caring and friendly community.
- To help children respect each other.
- To focus on beliefs and the core values which the school upholds as a community.
- To deepen appreciation of the gift of the natural world and the importance of acting responsibly towards the environment
- To encourage respect of other people's religious beliefs and practices.

Guidelines

1. Collective Worship will take place on a daily basis.
2. We recognise the benefits of separate acts of worship for infants and juniors as well as having whole school worship that encourages children to understand that Christians worship in different ways.
3. The norm is for worship to take place in school premises but occasionally it will take place elsewhere.
4. Themes for worship are planned as an integral part of school planning and include the three core values and values from the Church of England.
5. The Head, clergy, church congregation members and the Collective Worship Monitors will lead the worship.
6. A record will be kept of daily services. Children will evaluate collective worship periodically.
7. Collective Worship Monitors will plan and deliver services.
8. Members of the Clergy will be invited to lead worship on a regular basis.
9. Visitors from the wider community will be invited to lead worship as appropriate.
10. A variety of hymns and prayers will be used.
11. Bibles and texts appropriate to the children's level of development and understanding will be used.
12. Parents will be informed of their right to withdraw children from worship. Confirmation of this in writing will ensure that children occupy the time in private study.
13. Governors are welcome to attend all acts of worship which take place within the school. On occasions other visitors will also be invited, such as local residents.
14. We acknowledge that music, stillness, reflection and silence play a valuable part in worship.
15. Learning well-known prayers e.g. The Lord's prayer, and observing the cycle of the Christian year will feature strongly in our worship.
16. Christian values will form an integral part of daily worship. We have a strong focus on our three core values: Respect, Responsibility and Friendship which form the basis of worship and underpin all that we do at Rangeworthy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Frequent monitoring of worship is conducted by both the staff and the Collective Worship Monitors and this is then used when planning future worship.
- On a termly basis, the impact of worship is monitored in a variety of ways; through discussion with the class or by asking School Council to receive verbal feedback.
- Ethos Committee Governors monitor the impact of worship through an annual cycle involving observation of worship, learning walks and pupil conferencing. This is fed back to the headteacher and actioned accordingly.
- Each year, the Headteacher monitors the overall effectiveness of the year's worship and amends and updates the Collective Worship policy, alongside the school community and governors.
- Termly Ethos committee meetings and written feedback ensures the continued development of collective worship.

This policy has been approved by the staff and governors of the school and will be used in conjunction with other school policies. It will be reviewed as appropriate.

HeadteacherDate

Chair of governors Date