

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Name of School: North Clifton Primary School
Date of Policy: March 2021
Responsibility of: Governors
Review Date: March 2024



Introduction

North Clifton Primary School is a maintained school. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community. All pupils attend Collective Worship in school although we respect that some pupils may be withdrawn by their parents for religious or cultural reasons.

The Headteacher is responsible, under the school standards and framework act of 1988, for ensuring that a daily act of collective worship takes place. Consultation is also made in this matter with the governing body. The School recognises that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide opportunities for our pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

Aims and purpose

It is our aim at North Clifton Primary School that worship should:

- Reflect values that are of a broadly Christian nature.
- Promote a sense of community within the school and a sense of belonging and pride within the local community;
- Promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development;
- Explore the meaning of British values and use these to underpin the school's aims and standards.
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements of pupils and staff within the school.
- Be aware of local, national and international events and understand their significance and impact.
- Allow children to reflect on issues and beliefs that may or may not directly affect them
- Explore different religions and cultures, developing tolerance, love and respect.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to interact with other year groups, staff and, on occasions, the wider community.

Legal Status of Collective Worship

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'.

To provide students with variety in their experience of worship, acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all pupils or class based gatherings.

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'. By broadly Christian in this school we mean that we will explore key Christian concepts such as love, trust, forgiveness, mercy, humility, courage and integrity, respect for life, value of an individual, justice, co-operation and service, honesty and truthfulness.

Acts of Collective Worship at North Clifton Primary School take into account the student's ages and family backgrounds. They also reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage children to participate by holding celebration assemblies, during which children can share their work, achievements and successes to others. These assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and celebrate them together.

Rights of Withdrawal

Every effort is made to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all pupils and staff in collective worship.

At North Clifton Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

As required, the school will provide suitable supervision for students withdrawn from Collective Worship. No additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the Headteacher, have the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship, but the Headteacher, should he or she wish to exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Collective Worship.

Organisation

Monday – Whole School Collective Worship

Tuesday – Whole School Collective Worship

Wednesday – Whole School Collective Worship – Celebration Assembly on alternate weeks

Thursday – Whole School Collective Worship

Friday – Whole School Celebration Assembly

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Each term there is a theme for Collective worship based on SEAL, British values, citizenship or a theme connected to a festival or season of the year. Those leading worship that week are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This will mean that by the end of the week the students will have had the opportunity to reflect on one or more theme from a variety of viewpoints.