



MARISH

Academy Trust



Collective Worship Policy

Date: 26/11/2016

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1 Rationale

The Academy Trust recognises, as with all areas of the curriculum, collective worship should be a valid educational experience, and that, as set down in the 1988 Education Reform Act and Circular DFE 1/94, the nature of the collective worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

2 Aims

- To unite our school communities by celebrating things that are of worth to each school and encouraging participation and reflection.
- To foster the children's awareness of themselves and a sense of belonging to one of our schools, to the wider community of Langley or Slough and to the society and world in which we live;
- To promote respect for individuals from different backgrounds and their beliefs;
- To provide an opportunity for pupils to worship God, consider spiritual and moral issues and explore their own beliefs.

3 Guidelines

- Assembly including an act of Collective Worship will be held every day. (Given the increasing size of the schools, it is not possible for all year groups to attend assembly together each day.)
- All members of teaching staff will be given the opportunity to lead Collective Worship.
- All children will also be given the opportunity to take a lead, class by class.
- Members of appropriate organisations will be invited to share in Collective Worship.
- Themes used will sometimes relate to the PSHE or SEAL themes, cycle of the seasons and the celebration of religious festivals.
- They will also relate to the children's interests- classroom activities, the interests of the community and values upheld by individuals and other communities.
- The themes will be put forward in a variety of ways e.g. through story, prose, poetry, drama, art, music, discussion.
- There will sometimes be reference made to faiths other than Christianity.
- The collective worship will include the singing of songs and opportunities are given both to join in with and to listen to prayers.
- Time will also be provided for silence and reflection.
- Our schools will meet sometimes as a whole and sometimes in smaller groups.
- Whilst the Governors acknowledge the right of parents to withdraw their child from the daily Act of Worship and similarly acknowledge the right of teachers to be absent from the Act of Worship, they may be required to attend an assembly when an Act of Worship is not taking place.
- Parents wishing to withdraw their children from assemblies must consult with the Head Teacher, before requesting this.
- An inclusive time of reflection will be provided for all children regardless of their faith background.

4 Conclusion

The time set aside for Collective Worship gives us the opportunity, as a school, to draw attention to shared values as well as allowing us to explore some spiritual, moral and aesthetic areas of experience.

We recognise this time each day as important; a time when we learn as a school, to relate and share as a whole, to give thanks for the wonders and mysteries of life and to affirm basic values. E.g. respect for human rights, responsibilities- love of one's fellow beings, honesty and equality.

5 Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1.0	September 2012	GD	
2.0	October 2014	GD	
3.0	November	GD	

6 Approval History

Version	Approved	Comments
1.0	September 2012	FGB
2.0	October 2014	Strategic Board
3.0	December 2016	Strategic Board