



THE  
WESTCLIFFE  
FEDERATION

# Collective Worship Policy

**Approved by:**

Governing Body

**Date:** March 2023

**Next review due by:**

March 2025



The Collective Worship Policy pays due regard to statutory requirements and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

The Collective Worship Policy is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus.

### **Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

### **Aims of Collective Worship**

#### **For the School:**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of our federated schools and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit
- learn through the teachings of Jesus

#### **For the Pupils:**

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- reflect on what it's like to be British (link to British Values)

### **The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at all four schools, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

### **The Management of Collective Worship**

The Worship Co-ordinator will monitor and evaluate the acts of collective worship. Staff members will plan their own delivery of collective worship. The Co-ordinator's and staff will work closely with the clergy from all churches within the Federation.

Worship/RE Co-ordinator are:

Kinnerley – Mrs Elizabeth Madin (Interim Headteacher), St Andrew's - Mrs Steph Burgoyne (Headteacher), West Felton – Mrs Helen Hughes (Headteacher), Weston Lulingfields – Mrs Nicola Bond (Executive Headteacher)

### **The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall, or the classroom.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

We use the 'Values for Life' worship pack which is being used for collective worship. It is a valuable tool with links to the bible.

### **Leadership**

Pupils, school staff, clergy and visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

### **Planning Acts of Collective Worship**

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time.

### **The Act of Collective Worship**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (A change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc)

### **Withdrawal**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Head Teacher who will explain to parents that as Church Schools, collective worship is a key factor. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

**Policy Updated March 2023**

**Policy Review March 2025**