



Collective Worship Policy

'Together Everyone Achieves More'

Reviewed By	Sharon Longman	Policy Owner	January 2023
Approved By	Cate Gregory	Head of School	January 2023
NEXT REVIEW			January 2026

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school, can join together to consider, reflect on and discuss events, issues and interests, and also share and enjoy celebrations. Collective Worship offers the school community an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences, providing opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Collective Worship at Shirley Infant School

The daily act of Collective Worship at Shirley Infant School follows the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act which states that Collective Worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. While adhering to these requirements, we also ensure that our opportunities for Collective Worship reflect other religious traditions that are represented within our school and the wider community. Parents have the right, under the 1988 Education Reform Act, to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. It is a legal requirement that all children attend unless their parents have exercised their right to withdraw. Children who are withdrawn by their parents will be provided with alternative activities in a safe environment.

Aims

- To create a sense of occasion and reverence.
- To provide opportunities that develop pupils' awareness of what is beautiful, good, awesome and puzzling in life experience.
- To explore feelings such as awe, wonder, love, joy and pride.
- To provide opportunities for the children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- To consider spiritual and moral issues which are wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature.
- To explore and share common and different beliefs and appreciate and respect the importance of these religious beliefs to those who hold them.
- To think of the needs of others and develop a sense of community.
- To celebrate achievements of others within our school community.
- To re-affirm, interpret and put into practice the values of our school community.
- To provide a time of quiet for reflection and prayer.

- To encourage the children to participate and respond in various ways, for example, through listening and active involvement.

The presentation of Collective Worship

Presenters may include the Senior Leadership Team, other members of staff, Governors, groups of children and whole classes, and visiting speakers. Times of Collective Worship can be presented and enjoyed through a variety of ways such as using the children's work, music, singing, dance, drama, works of art, poetry, literature, video footage, photographs and the experience of real objects, artefacts, religious symbols and rituals.

The contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Shirley Infant School Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the learning undertaken in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich in-class learning through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

Special Needs, Disabilities and Equal Opportunities

All pupils will have equal opportunities to access Collective Worship, regardless of their race, gender, cultural background, ability, or of any physical or sensory disability. Children are supported as necessary to access Collective Worship opportunities.

Health and Safety

The general teaching requirement for Health and Safety applies to Collective Worship. The details of the school Health and Safety Policy can be accessed via the school website or the school office.