



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY Archibald First School

The Collective Worship Policy of Archibald First School is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

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

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities, although they may take place as part of the same gathering.

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect upon life experiences, key questions, common concerns, issues and interests. It provides an opportunity to focus on God. 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.

Schools often gather for achievement assemblies, singing assemblies and curriculum assemblies. These can be made into an act of collective worship through the addition of an opportunity for reflection or prayer at the end of these times. Without it they stay as an assembly.

Organisation of Collective Worship

Under the Education Act 1996, all maintained schools must provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils who are of statutory school age. Daily collective worship is not required in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Our younger children join us for the Friday celebration assembly on a weekly basis.

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each afternoon assembly. These can be as a whole school or in Key Stages to allow for a more personalised focus.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully. **(See Appendix A)**

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Archibald First School 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

For the Pupils:

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

- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own and others beliefs
- worship God
- participate and respond
- reinforce positive attitudes such as tolerance, respect, kindness
- reflect on that which is considered important
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reflect on what it means to be a person in modern day society
- consider the wonders and worries of the world, country and local community

Themes and Messages of Collective Worship and Assemblies

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.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act and the 1996 education Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', and in recognition of the fact that our school community includes pupils who are practising members of other faiths we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Examples of our themes: Respect, tolerance, friendship, equality, rule of law, kindness, trust, individual liberty, honesty, responsibility, the environment and democracy.

We also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

We plan our assemblies termly but they can be adapted to allow inclusion of current and topical issues. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum.

Recognising Achievements and Valuing Our Children

Whilst incorporating an act of Collective Worship, our assemblies also reflect the achievements and learning of our children. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of schools. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.

Archibald First School is a successful school and we shall always celebrate the successes of all the children in assemblies.

Leading Assemblies and Collective Acts of Worship

Every member of the teaching staff including the head teacher and deputy head teacher is responsible for leading acts of worship throughout the school year. **(See Termly Assembly Rotas)**

Visitors

- We welcome governors' attendance at our assemblies at any time.
- Parents are invited to a class assembly once a year
- We welcome visitors to take assembly. E.g. 'Christians Together in Gosforth'.

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assembly. However, parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of collective worship if they wish. The head teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy was reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body. The policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Teaching and Learning Committee.

Approved: Summer 2020

Next Review: Summer 2023

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- RE policy
- PSHE policy
- Equalities statement

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Archibald First School

Cultural Capital: Each week a different genre of music, musician will be played on entry to assembly.
The PowerPoint with key information must be used.

Monday: Christians Together in Gosforth (Upper Hall) - Key Stage 1 and 2 assembly delivering stories and messages from the Bible (Open the Book), incorporating a reflection time/prayer at the end.

Tuesday: Key Stage 1 and 2 Music Assembly (Upper Hall) - Songs linked to Christian celebrations and key values.

Ending with a reflection and a moment of thought

Wednesday:

Key Stage 1 (Classrooms) - Reflection at the end of RE lessons, incorporating the learning and how it relates to Christian beliefs, those of other religions and the children's own faiths and beliefs.

Key Stage 2 (Upper Hall) – Themed assembly incorporating:

- Respect, tolerance, friendship, equality, rule of law, kindness, trust, individual liberty, honesty, responsibility, the environment and democracy.
- Celebrations of different cultures, religions, beliefs and celebrations.
- Key dates / Events in History
- Current and topical issues

Ending with a reflection and a moment of thought

Thursday:

Key Stage 1 (Lower Hall) – Themed assembly incorporating:

- Respect, tolerance, friendship, equality, rule of law, kindness, trust, individual liberty, honesty, responsibility, the environment and democracy.
- Celebrations of different cultures, religions, beliefs and celebrations.
- Key dates / Events in History
- Current and topical issues

Ending with a reflection and a moment of thought

Key Stage 2 (Classrooms) - Reflection at the end of RE lessons, incorporating the learning and how it relates to Christian beliefs, those of other religions and the children's own faiths and beliefs.

Friday (Lower Hall): A whole school assembly celebrating the achievement of our children linked to their academic work school values and out of school achievements.

(Allows younger children to leave on time)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

EYFS

Monday: PSED: School rules and values

Tuesday: Book Vote Station

Wednesday: Book Vote Station

Thursday: Music Assembly (Classrooms) – learning the school songs together

Friday: Whole School Celebration Assembly (Lower Hall)