



## CROSBY-ON-EDEN SCHOOL

**“Enjoying achieving; achieving enjoyment”**

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Date Policy adopted by Governors	November 2018
Review date	November 2020
Review schedule	Biennial
Review responsibility	Learning & Teaching Sub-Committee
Signed (Head) <i>Ayesha Hesh</i>	Signed (Chair of Governors) <i>Mr J. Ditchburn</i>



## **Crosby on Eden C E Primary School Collective Worship Policy**

At Crosby on Eden C E Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and enriching part of school life.

Through this and in the overarching ethos of the school we seek to promote our Christian vision ***'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'***. (John 10:10)

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of pupils, staff, parents, Church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

### **Christian Values**

Christian values permeate every aspect of school life. The three main values to be the focus of our collective worship for each academic year are chosen by pupils, parents, staff and Governors. Children lead a special 'values' assembly at the start of each academic year, the whole school community then votes for the three values they wish the school to adopt for the year. In the academic year 2018-19 these are Courage, Compassion and Thankfulness. This then forms the banner headline on our school website.

### **Values Education**

We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intellectually so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

### **Legal Requirements**

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

### **Organisation**

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday	Whole school worship led by Miss Weston (Headteacher and RE lead) to introduce the theme for the week through story; generally but not always taken from the scriptures.
Tuesday	Class worship. Continuing the theme introduced on a Monday; separate themes for EYFS/KS1 and KS2. The themes are usually very similar, but content is differentiated age appropriately. Class teachers lead these circle time worships. In addition, The Rev Steve leads a whole school worship on alternate Wednesday afternoons for Years 1 to 6.
Wednesday	Class led worship. Each class takes it in turn, on a rota basis, to lead collective worship they have devised entirely themselves. The children use: drama, dance, music, presentations etc. to depict the theme of the week in a way that is highly accessible and hugely enjoyed by their peers.
Thursday	Whole School hymn practice, with prayer/reflection time led by the Class Teachers.
Friday	On Fridays we have whole school 'Good News' worship led by the Headteacher. Children are awarded certificates and prizes, including special 'Values' certificates for those children who have embodied the schools' Christian values in their actions through the week. At the end of every month, this assembly is held in Church and parents and local residents join us to celebrate our children's achievements.

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship. We aim to include the children in the planning and delivery of our Collective Worship, wherever possible.

The worship should last no more than 15 minutes.

### **Prayer and Reflection**

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, sometimes including hymn practice. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. A child is always invited to lead prayer at the end of each act of worship. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. At the beginning of the whole school worship led by the Headteacher, a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged by the lighting of candles. A cross is also displayed above the worship table.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by either an adult or child in each class.

### **Other Faiths**

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing acceptance and understanding regardless of pupil's beliefs. The class-led acts of worship may occasionally portray other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the curriculum requirements.

### **Planning, Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring**

The Headteacher plans worship on a half termly basis. A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship. Evaluations will also be recorded here. Training and support is encouraged and available for those who wish to lead acts of worship.

### **Visits and visitors**

As part of the curriculum, Crosby on Eden C E Primary School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship. Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. St. John's Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Friday services.

### **Parents/Governors/Diocesan Liaison and Local Community Issues**

- Children may be withdrawn from collective worship at the wish of their parents. The Headteacher will ensure that suitable provision is made for such pupils.
- In line with our school governance structure and school three-year development plan, the role of link governor for Christian Ethos is a well-established role on the governing body. The Headteacher and link Governor liaise to discuss various aspects of R.E. and collective worship and this ensures an effective line of communication between the coordinator and the governing body.

### **Equal Opportunities and special needs issues**

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding. At each Key Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.