

Langrish Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

This Policy explains how we intend to organise, manage and deliver the Collective worship within our school.

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. We believe at this school that collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos, and the value which we place on the development of the whole child; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in our worship.

Legal requirements:

The law requires that all pupils should take part in a daily act of collective worship. Taken over a term, the majority of such acts should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. Specifically, the law requires that,

- All pupils should take part in an act of collective worship each school day.
- There may be a single act of collective worship for all pupils or separate acts for pupils in different age or school groups.
- Acts of collective worship shall take place on school premises.
- Acts of collective worship should be appropriate to the family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of the pupils.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from any or all acts of collective worship.
- The parent does not have to give a reason for this request. The school retains responsibility for the pupil's health and safety.
- All teachers (including Head Teachers) retain the right to withdraw from acts of collective worship.

VALUES:

We value this special time in the school day for the space it gives children to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways or any other appropriate manner.

Our aims are to:

- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the school and wider community
- Grow in understanding of the feelings of the other people in every day situations and beliefs
- Explore the language which people use to express their feelings
- Deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them
- Grow in confidence when making a presentation to the group or whole school
- Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person's life stance, whether it be religious or not
- Ensure that the Convention on the Rights of the child are embedded into all collective worship that takes place in our school.
- **UNICEF article 14:**
You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Arrangements for Collective worship:

Collective worship takes place every day at Langrish Primary School. If it is not possible to do this as a whole school, then classroom assemblies take place.

We maintain links with local churches and vicars visit at various times in the year. A range of visitors from the local community, including charities and leaders of different faiths are motivational in leading assemblies. Visitors are made aware of the school values and may choose to use the value as a focus for their assembly. Every class, except Squirrels, will prepare, rehearse and perform two whole school assemblies to share with family and friends. These are either related to the work they have completed in class or a special theme, e.g. Remembrance Day.

Themes which encompass religious festivals, known national or international events, and aspects taken from the school calendar are also used by staff leading worship.

Leadership:

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the year. Leaders choose from a range of methods including,

- Pupil's contributions
- Sacred and secular stories/readings
- Dance/drama
- Prayer/meditation/songs/hymns/music
- Artefacts/natural materials
- Visual aids/focal points
- Dialogue/creative silence
- Visitors

Policy Agreed September 2020