



# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

AUTHOR	REVIEWED	NEXT REVIEW
R. HORTON	JANUARY 2016	JANUARY 2019

## Oulton Primary School's Collective Worship Policy

The aim of the collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- respond to the worship offered

Our ethos “thinking for ourselves and caring for each other” and the value we place on promoting the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils is reflected in our collective worship.

### **Statutory Duty of School**

All state schools are required to make provision for a daily collective worship for pupils of every key stage. (National Curriculum 2014) This is usually provided within an assembly or within class collective worship times.

The Head Teacher is responsible (Collective Worship in Schools, DfE guidance January 1994) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the Governing Body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils.

### **Collective Worship at Oulton Primary.**

“Collective worship” is different from “corporate worship” where everyone is committed to a particular faith, as in a church, synagogue, mosque, temple or other religious setting. “Collective” should acknowledge that a school is a collection of different individuals and beliefs, and implies inclusiveness and no commitment to any particular faith; however “worship” implies reverence for a divine being and guidance states that it must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

### **Implementation**

Collective worship, whether in assembly, music workshop or curriculum time, will:

- be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils



- include a variety of elements at different times
- involve the pupils.

Worship defined in this way draws on literature, music, art, drama and other sources of inspiration and reflection for pupils and staff whose religious and cultural backgrounds are of any faith or none. In this way collective worship is inclusive not exclusive.

In this school we combine our acts of collective worship with assembly, helping to ensure that worship takes place within a broad educational framework. This could be in the form of a prayer, a time for quiet reflection (perhaps lighting a candle, listening to music or with some other focus), or singing a hymn. On the days when there is no assembly or music workshop, this will take place in each class.

### **Parental rights**

If a parent asks that a child be wholly or partly excused from attending any religious worship at the school, then the school must comply. We ask that parents/ carers put these requests in writing to the headteacher.

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The school will review this policy regularly and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

