

Kingsley Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Last updated: March 2024

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Statement of intent

At Kingsley Primary School, we see the value in collective worship and adhere to our statutory duty by providing 15 Minutes of collective worship a day. This time will enable pupils to explore their own beliefs and consider spiritual, moral and cultural issues.

The act of daily collective worship will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character; however, other faiths and cultures will be represented.

Collective worship provides the opportunity for the school to meet together in a variety of contexts and enables participating pupils and staff to consider events of the world and appreciate the rich tapestry of human experience and existence.

This policy outlines how our school implements collective worship within our daily routines, including the aims of collective worship and how pupils can be withdrawn.

Signed by:

_____	Headteacher	Date: _____
_____	Chair of governors	Date: _____

1. Legal framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
 - The School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- 1.2. This policy also has due regard to guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - DfE (1994) 'Religious Education and Collective Worship'
- 1.3. This policy will be implemented alongside the following school policies:
 - RE policy
 - PHSE policy
 - RSHE Policy
 - British Values policy
 - Visitor code of conduct

2. Definition of collective worship

- 2.1. For the purpose of this policy, **“collective worship”** is an act which is additional to, and separate from, ordinary school activities. Collective worship is a time when individuals come together, and reverence or veneration is paid to a divine being or power.
- 2.2. To **“take part”** in collective worship implies more than a passive attendance, such that it should have the ability to elicit responses from pupils even though they may not feel able to actively identify in the act of worship on a particular occasion.

3. Aims of collective worship

- 3.1. Collective worship aims to:
 - Enable pupils to consider spiritual, moral and cultural issues, as well as explore their own beliefs.
 - Provide close links to British Values of: democracy; rule of law; individual liberty; mutual respect for tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and for those without faith.
 - Encourage participation and response via active involvement or through listening and participating in the worship offered.
 - Provide pupils with the opportunity to plan, lead or contribute to discussions on key themes and topics, e.g. morality.
 - Provide a peaceful environment to enable stillness, prayer and reflection.

- Help pupils to develop an awareness of their community and the spirit of helping others.
- Develop a spirit of community and an understanding of individuals with other beliefs.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each individual's life stance, whether religious or not.
- Promote a common ethos and shared values.
- Reinforce positive attitudes.

4. Organisation and planning

- 4.1. The school will implement collective worship in line with advice given by the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).
- 4.2. Every pupil will participate in the act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn in line with section 7 of this policy.
- 4.3. Worship will be of a broadly Christian character; however, there will be influences from other religions found in the local community.
- 4.4. The headteacher and Collective Worship lead is responsible for creating the agenda for collective worship in discussion with the governors.
- 4.5. The act of worship will be held for 15 minutes daily.
- 4.6. Each assembly held will have a theme relevant to current affairs and topics agreed by the headteacher and governors.
- 4.7. The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to pupils of all ages and backgrounds.
- 4.8. The headteacher and Collective Worship lead will establish a timetable for collective worship to make sure progression from each session is carried on to the next, as well as to ensure that learning is practically applied by pupils to their lives inside and outside of school.
- 4.9. The school may invite visitors or guest speakers to speak during collective worship, in accordance with the timetabled theme.
- 4.10. Guest speakers will be required to adhere to the school's Visitors Code of Conduct during their visit.

5. Weekly collective worship programme

- 5.1. The school aims to deliver a varied collective worship programme to pupils. The current schedule is outlined in the table below:

Day of the week	Delivery of programme
Monday	A lower KS2 worship assembly is delivered by member of the leadership team. These can also include hymn practise where time for prayer and reflection is included at the end of the hymn practise. These set the theme for the week following the yearly long term planning. KS1 take part in class or cohort collective worship assemblies following the weekly theme.
Tuesday	KS1 and KS2 take part in class or cohort collective worship assemblies following the weekly theme.
Wednesday	KS1 and KS2 take part in class or cohort collective worship assemblies following the weekly theme.
Thursday	An upper KS2 worship assembly is delivered by member of the leadership team. These can also include hymn practise where time for prayer and reflection is included at the end of the hymn practise. KS1 take part in class or cohort collective worship assemblies following the weekly theme.
Friday	KS2 take part in class or cohort collective worship assemblies following the weekly theme. KS1 collective worship assembly is delivered by a member of the leadership team.

- 5.2. Once every half term, pupils will be given time to discuss issues and the themes of worship covered that term.
- 5.3. Prayer, hymns and time for reflection will be a regular part of collective worship and participating individuals in KS2 will recite the Lord's prayer.
- 5.4. Collective worship will be educational, inclusive, invitational and reflective. It will address themes such as those found in Appendix 1.
- 5.5. All topics covered will be suitable to the age of pupils participating in collective worship and will be inclusive for all needs.

6. Implementation

- 6.1. The school aims to promote rich and meaningful experiences of collective worship that are appropriate to pupils' needs, ages and interests by:
 - Presenting displays that promote and enhance spiritual ideas and thoughts.
 - Encouraging pupils to reflect and contemplate on their thoughts, feelings and beliefs.

- Using artefacts, secular stories, resources, music, art, drama and guest speakers to engage pupils' interest.
 - Involving pupils in different experiences of worship, e.g. silence, prayer, rituals and shared or written prayers.
- 6.2. The school will take into account pupils of different ages and abilities when delivering the collective worship programme.
- 6.3. The school will arrange for learning mentors to assist pupils with SEND if the need arises.

7. Right to withdraw

- 7.1. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so.
- 7.2. Parents will be encouraged to discuss their decision with the headteacher following a request of withdrawal in terms of:
- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the pupil taking part in.
 - The practical implications of their withdrawal.
 - Whether the parent will require notice in advance of such worship, and if so, what period of notice is preferred.
- 7.3. Alternative provision will be arranged for pupils who are withdrawn from collective worship.
- 7.4. Alternative provision may involve religious worship relevant to their particular faith or denomination provided that:
- The effect of the alternative provision would not replace the denominational collective worship with that of the statutory, non-denominational worship.
 - Such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school.
- 7.5. The alternative provision will be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum.

8. Monitoring and review

- 8.1. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the headteacher and Collective worship lead in agreement with the governors.
- 8.2. This policy will be evaluated in accordance with feedback from questionnaires, class discussions and open assemblies.
- 8.3. Any changes made to this policy and the collective worship programme will be communicated to all members of staff.
- 8.4. The scheduled review date for this policy is March 2025.