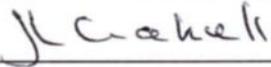




Hayfield Cross
Church of England School

Collective Worship Policy

Ratified by the Full Governing Board	29 th November 2017
Name	Mrs Helen Cracknell
Signature	
Position	Chair of Governors
Head Teacher Signature	
To be reviewed by (date) Unless changes in circumstances or legislation	28 th November 2019

The Hayfield Cross Promise

Our promise is to nurture and inspire children to be pioneers of their own futures.

Our children will radiate positivity and have high aspirations for themselves and others.

Children will develop depth of learning through rich and exciting experiences and opportunities in and out of the classroom.

Guided by our Christian values, our children will develop a strong moral compass. Valuing and respecting others they will become individuals who contribute to our global community as citizens of modern Britain.

Collective Worship Policy – September 2017

'Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs'
Psalm 100:2

Aims

Collective Worship at Hayfield Cross Church of England School aims to create an atmosphere in which both children and adults can understand themselves as children of God. It is through reflection and prayer that we seek to consider our place in the world and 'reach out' towards God.

Our daily act of worship is a means of strengthening the school family where all individuals have a significant and valued role to play. The schools Christian Values of Joy, Integrity and Fellowship are ongoing themes that flow through all that the school does and are regularly reinforced through collective worship.

We aim to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development of the children through their participation in the collective act of worship. It is important to us that worship is meaningful and relevant to their everyday lives. We hope through collective worship, reflection and shared prayers that we lay the foundation within the children for involvement in worship which will be developed in their future lives.

Our Approach to Worship

We consider it extremely important to create an atmosphere conducive to worship and reflection. From the very beginnings of a child's journey through our school they will be encouraged to be thoughtful and reflective, actively participating in collective worship.

There is a weekly theme for collective worship which all fit under the overarching termly theme based in our Christian Values of Joy, Integrity and Fellowship. Where possible, the Church Year, other faiths, festivals, saints' days and ideas linked to current events are included as part of the termly plan. Themes from the curriculum are also included, especially through class assemblies where the children lead collective worship.

There is a daily act of collective worship at Hayfield Cross Church of England School. Wednesdays are dedicated as 'Worship Wednesday' which are solely focused on Christian Themes and are regularly led by members of the Church. All staff are offered the opportunity to join in Worship Wednesday each term and parents are invited to attend when it is regularly led by members of the clergy. Members of staff and others from our community may also lead collective worship.

Throughout each week and over time a variety of styles and activities are used during times of collective worship to engage the children's enthusiasm and interest and to provoke reflection, thought and discussion. The use of artefacts, music and media are used to stimulate and develop in the children a sense of awe and wonder of God's creation in the world around them. Visual elements will also be used when appropriate and may include the cross, flowers, vestments and Church Years colours, candles and personal objects.

Appropriate use of vocabulary, both to enable the younger children to understand and to extend the knowledge of the more able, is seen as essential in the presentation of an act of worship. In order to participate fully the children need to understand the focus.

In prayer, we reinforce this as a time to praise God, say sorry, say thank you, question, reflect and listen.

In music, we sing a variety of hymns and songs, both traditional and modern. Wherever possible, hymns and songs pertaining to the weekly theme are chosen to be part of the act of worship

Bible stories and readings from both Old and New Testament, poetry and prose are read, recited or acted out, when appropriate, to stimulate thought and discussion.

Our School Prayer

Our school prayer based on our Christian Values is shared every day in school and as a whole community at our weekly celebration assembly. Our prayer is:

Dear Lord
Help us each day to be JOYFUL,
act with INTEGRITY
and value FELLOWSHIP
in all that we do. Amen

The Lord's Prayer is shared as part of the Monday collective Worship led by the Head Teacher.

Spirituality

Spirituality is defined at Hayfield Cross as 'To feel connected to something bigger than yourself'. Opportunities are given for children and adults to have a moment of stillness to reflect on this including as a whole community at the weekly celebration assembly.

Reflection Areas

All Key Stage 1 and 2 classes have a dedicated reflection area to provide the children with a space to reflect as well as a focus to celebrate God. This area will be referred to as part of the weekly class reflection where collective worship is held in class as a time to reflect together. Each class has a 'Reflection Journal' which is there to record the children's thoughts and prayers.

Continuity

In order to gain continuity, we consider the following principles should be adhered to by all adults who lead the collective act of worship.

1. Collective worship should be made as inclusive as possible for all children participating, from those in the Reception Year to those in Year 6.
2. The act of worship should always be of value, having a clear message to all that is easily understood. It should give the children something to consider and reflect on.
3. Over time collective worship should contribute to and extend the religious education of the children.
4. Collective worship should be valued as a very special part of the school day.
5. Worship at Hayfield Cross Church of England School should always be planned with the needs of the children in mind.

Wherever possible cross-curricular links should be made. For example, using examples of personalities from history to illustrate a point, geographical references which may relate to significant places, or the use of an artist's painting as an example of the talents God give us.

Recording

All adults leading collective worship are given a new plan of the weekly themes at the beginning of each term.

If governors attend collective worship they should evaluate the worship they have taken part in on a governor visit record. This is used to give an overview for The Governing Board to monitor practice within school.

Photographs of events, festivals and celebrations will be included on the board in the front entrance to the school and also on the school website through the class and school blogs.

Legal Status

Hayfield Cross Church of England School is aware that a collective act of worship must take place every school day on the school premises. As a Voluntary Aided School, worship must be in accordance with the trust deed and must pertain to the practice and tradition of the Church of England. Those who lead worship are mindful of this fact.

The governors of Hayfield Cross Church of England School have a legal responsibility to ensure that the collective act of worship takes place correctly.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Hayfield Cross Church of England School, we would hope that all children will take part in collective worship. However, we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children. Parents wishing to do so are advised to discuss the matter with the Head Teacher in the first instance.

We believe it is important that the teaching staff convey their commitment to collective worship by participating as a member of the school community. Through this it is hoped that children will be aware that worship is a shared and valuable experience for both children and adults. However, a teacher's right to withdraw is noted.