

# Long Furlong Primary School

## Collective Worship Policy

### Definition

At Long Furlong Primary School, Collective Worship is an important part of our school day where we join together for the common purpose of developing our school family life in the context of mainly broad Christian traditions.

Collective Worship draws on themes from experience and children are encouraged to respond to these in a variety of ways mindful of family background, age and aptitude.

### Legal Requirements

1. Daily Acts of Worship can happen at any point during the school day and any pupil groupings are possible.
2. The character of Worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
3. Attention must be paid to the age, aptitude and family background of pupils.

### Aims and purpose of Collective Worship at Long Furlong

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- ~ to provide an opportunity for the children to engage in an act of worship;
- ~ to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- ~ to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- ~ to encourage participation and response;
- ~ to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- ~ to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;

### Planning, Organisation and Recording of Collective Worship

- The Headteacher has overall responsibility for planning and organising Collective Worship.
- Staff share the responsibility of delivering Collective Worship. (see Practical Arrangements)
- Themes are planned on a two year rolling programme using the PSHE scheme of work
- A record of themes covered is kept by the Headteacher
- The impact of Collective Worship on pupils and staff is monitored by all staff, particularly the PSHE co-ordinator and the Headteacher.

## **Visiting speakers**

We welcome visitors into school to lead Collective Worship. However it is important that visitors give messages in a way that is consistent with our principles and practice.

## **Equal Opportunities**

Collective Worship provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate values such as appreciating diversity and promoting understanding of each other. As part of whole-school PSHE teaching it can also help to challenge negative stereotyping with regard to ethnicity, gender, religious belief, disability, special needs and sexual orientation.

## **Right of Withdrawal**

Parents may withdraw their child from Collective Worship. Any parent wishing to exercise this right is encouraged to discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

*The Governors have drawn up a position statement on "Religion in School", which can be found in the 'Policies' section on the school website.*