



Theale Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

We are required to “promote the spiritual development of pupils and provide a daily act of worship”.
Education Reform- Act 1988

“The centre of worship can be an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the common humanity of us all. The spiritual quest is not confined to those of a religious faith, but should be available to any who choose to explore that path. It is an inheritance and a birthright”

Jill Fuller - Travelling Together

For Christians and those of many other faiths, worship is an opportunity to set aside the business of the day and to give thanks, seek guidance and help, discover stillness and awareness of “the other” and in humanity and compassion celebrate the wholeness of hope for the world.

Our worship focuses on Christian Values, specifically: Love, Hope, Faith, Trust, Integrity, Peace and Respect.

Aims

To enable each individual to discover a sense of awe and wonder

To develop a sense of community

To encourage an awareness of the integrity of creation and potential wholeness of humankind

To recognise and celebrate the humanity in us all

Objectives

To provide a regular activity in which key stages or the whole school come together with enthusiasm and enjoyment

To nurture the sense of community, sharing joys and sorrows, successes and failures

To lay the basis from which children may develop the capacity for mature worship

To ensure that each individual knows that they are valued and value everyone else

To explore themes which include:

Communities - school, the village, the church, the world, etc.

Life experiences - birth, death, celebrations, etc.

Biblical – to deepen an understanding of God the Creator and knowledge of the Bible

Spiritual – awe and wonder, insight, stillness, prayer, wholeness, reflection

Ethical/morals – right and wrong, values, rules, behaviour

Social Action – charity, social reformers, world/local issues, belief which triggers action

Examples of themes:

People – lives of Saints, famous people, dedication, life style

Religions – beliefs, denominations, traditions, festivals

Aesthetic – great/sacred art, literature, poetry, buildings, music

The natural world - seasons, light and dark, water, power, etc.

Feelings - sorrow, courage, anger, joy etc.

Stories – use of stories to illustrate Christian truths

Community Links

The school has close links with the Parish Church and assemblies follow, where appropriate, events from the Church of England's calendar. Children celebrate Christian festivals and visit the Church weekly. Each term is concluded with a Church service. The Vicar is timetabled to lead school assemblies and children at times contribute to Sunday services. Acts of Worship can be led by the Headteacher, members of staff, visiting speakers or children.

Structure of Provision

The children will have the opportunity for collective worship every day. Acts of Worship may take place at various times of the day. Pupils may meet in the following groups: whole school, Early Years or Key Stage 1/2 classes, individual class groups or house assemblies. We will also pray each day on other occasions such as before we eat lunch.

Assemblies and Acts of Worship will be regularly reviewed to see provision and impact.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. However, we make every effort to provide an experience that all pupils, parents and teachers feel comfortable with.

Resources

People - teaching and ancillary staff, governors, parents, local clergy, outside visitors

Music - to sing, to play, to listen to, to inspire

ICT presentations and audio

Books

Artefacts

SEAL (*Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning*) materials

The Bible and biblical stories

Candles and Vestments

Last Reviewed: Summer 2019

Next Review: Summer 2022