



Branston Church of England Infant Academy

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Co-ordinator: Mrs L Cook

Original Policy Dated: March 2017

Reviewed Policy Date: June 2024

Presented to Local Council: June 2024

Date to be Reviewed: June 2026

Cycle Review: 2 Yearly

As a caring Church School, we are committed to the Christian values that develop a distinctive ethos underpinning the way in which we carry out our work and the way in which our children learn. We wholeheartedly believe that we can inspire all members of our school community to be 'The best they can be'.

At our school we aim to:

- Develop Christian values and principles.
- Help all members of our school community in achieving to their potential.
- Enable each child to develop an enquiring mind with the ability to question and discuss, so that they become independent, life-long learners.
- Provide an environment which is dedicated to promoting high standards of achievement for all and a love of learning which will be life-long and achieved within a Christian context.

Objectives

Our objectives in providing collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship God.
- To provide an opportunity for children to consider the meaning and purpose of life.
- 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.
- To provide an opportunity for calm reflection.

Collective Worship

We understand Worship to be a special act or occasion, the purpose of which is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship involves members of the school coming together, as a class, key stage or whole school and participating together.

As a Church of England school we base our acts of worship on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct them in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

While the acts of worship in school are Christian in nature we also reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the local and wider community.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily Collective Worship.

We conduct the act of Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that this time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We expect them to be quiet, thoughtful, to listen carefully to the themes and participate through invitation in prayer and song/hymns.

We create an appropriate atmosphere through music and a candle and other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

The Headteacher, members of staff and the local clergy usually conduct our Collective Worship. These may also include contributions from the pupils and visitors to the school.

We invite parents, Local Councillors and the wider community to join the school in acts of Collective Worship.

We take the themes for our Collective Worship from the Christian values which we have agreed with staff, children, parents and Local Councillors. The themes are Love, Kindness, Honesty, Forgiveness, Respect and Perseverance. We also use the traditions of the Christian Year to develop understanding. Sometimes the themes of our collective worship build on the topics that form part of the curriculum.

The Function of Celebration Worship within our School

Our Celebration Worship reflects the achievement and learning of our children. We encourage the children to participate in it by sharing their work with other children. They offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. Celebration Worship plays an important part in promoting the ethos of the school.

We invite parents and Local Councillors to join our Celebration Worship and also our special occasion acts of worship or services in school or at the Church. We value this as an important way of demonstrating home, school and the community working together to support and celebrate pupils' achievements.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending Collective Worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

Monitoring and Review

Monitoring is undertaken through gathering feedback from pupils, parents and staff.

We act on feedback, wherever possible, to ensure Collective Worship is meaningful and has a positive impact on our school community.

The Headteacher monitors the policy into practice and makes recommendations to the Academy Committee.



Collective Worship Policy – Amendments

Date Actioned	Changes
April 2019	Any reference to Governors/Governing Body/Local board amended to Local Council to reflect changes to school governance.
May 2019	- Paragraph 2 of Organisation of Collective Worship; Insert the word 'themes' before and participate and 'through invitation' before in prayer and song. - Insert the following sentence at the end of the paragraph: Our Collective Worship also encompasses Drama, Dance and provides opportunities for pupil involvement. Class Collective Worships where each class has planned and led Worship particularly demonstrate this. - Paragraph 6 insert the word 'Year' following Christian and 'form' following topics that. - Insertion of the following into the last paragraph: We act on feedback, wherever possible, to ensure Collective Worship is meaningful and has a positive impact on our school community.
June 2024	- Removed final sentence in Organisation of Collective Worship - Monitor Review, updated Local Council to Academy Committee.