

GREAT CHART PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

September 2020



Our vision is to create a school community where children participate, succeed and are proud of their achievements. We strive to actively promote British values and prepare our children to become role models, thus preparing them for life in modern Britain. It is our belief that children come to Great Chart Primary School to be happy, successful and to be the best they can be. Our core values are: Respect, Aspiration, Responsibility, Resilience, Independence and Kindness.

Great Chart Primary School Policy for Collective Worship

Assembly: Worship

There will be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils, except those who have been withdrawn from such worship (by the parents' written request to the head). Any visitors invited into school will be informed of the Worship Policy and expected to comply with it.

There will be one circle time class assembly each week, which will focus on aspects relating to the class, the school, or the wider world. For example - the school RESPECT rules, working as a team, achieving goals etc.

Withdrawal of Individual Pupils

The absence of a pupil from school on any day exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which his parent belongs, does not infringe the school attendance provisions of the Education Act. A pupil may be withdrawn by his parent, after a request in writing, from worship in any kind of School. The pupil will remain on the school premises.

Rationale

Collective Worship seeks to make a major contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils by helping them to acquire a knowledge and understanding of major world religions, an appreciation of ultimate questions and responses to them and to develop their own beliefs and values.

Organisation of Collective Worship & The Role of The Worship Leader

Assemblies are organised within different year groupings or key stages and there is always a whole school assembly once a week. There is always a piece of music chosen to begin. Pupils are expected to come into assembly in silence and to sit and listen to the music in order to begin the act of worship in a calm atmosphere.

The Worship Leader will produce:

- a policy
- plan the weekly themes for worship and timetable of assemblies
- advise and support colleagues and develop their subject expertise with the aim of ensuring that staff deliver an assembly which is appropriate to the ages of the pupils which does not conflict with legal requirements
- seek opportunities for professional development for themselves and other staff
- manage the resources.

Prayer/Reflection

Pupils must be given the opportunity to reflect on the theme of the assembly and to pray if they wish to.

Teachers can either say a prayer and invite pupils to listen to it or can ask for a moment of silence in which pupils can reflect or pray.

Variety

Pupils will experience a wide variety of experiences during assembly:

- listening to the teacher
- taking part themselves or watching other pupils take part
- reading of texts
- a range of media such as recordings, artefacts, pictures, photographs, music and drama
- visits and visitors.

Regular opportunities will be provided for pupils to raise their own questions and to explore answers to them and to discuss and reflect on fundamental issues addressed in Collective Worship.

Cross-Curricular Skills & Links

Collective Worship makes a contribution to the development of general educational abilities such as seeing the world through other people's eyes and the ability to express thoughts, feelings and personal beliefs. Collective Worship also makes a major contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It addresses issues, which arise in personal and social education. As it is concerned with values and behaviour, Collective Worship can make a significant contribution to education in citizenship.

Equal Opportunities

Teaching materials and visual aids used will reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of society. Pupils' religious and cultural beliefs will be respected. Collective Worship will challenge stereotypes, misinformation and misconceptions about race, gender and religion. It will seek to present religions in all their richness and diversity in terms of beliefs, traditions, customs and lifestyle in a sensitive and accurate way in order to encourage a positive attitude towards that diversity.

Section 5

Recording

Records of weekly themes, suggested hymns and music are kept by the Acts Of Worship Co-ordinator.

Resources

Resources used, especially religious artefacts, will be treated with care and appreciation. Collective Worship will be funded to enable a full range of resources to be purchased. All resources will be listed, stored safely, be easily accessible, kept in good condition and updated when required.