

Coulsdon C.E. Primary School

Voluntary Aided Founded in 1834

Collective Worship Policy

Together, growing in mind, body and spirit

This policy is intended to ensure consistency across the school of the provision of Collective Worship. Coulsdon Church of England Primary School is a Voluntary Aided Primary School, first founded in 1834. It is a one form entry school providing a Christian based education for up to 210 boys and girls between the ages of 4+ to 11+ inclusive.

The school has a particular relationship with the community of Coulsdon through its association with the Church of St. John the Evangelist.

Collective Worship at Coulsdon C of E Primary School is determined by the Governing Body, in accordance with the school's trust deed, and therefore, in the main, reflects the traditions of the Church of England. The planning and organisation of Collective Worship is arranged by the Head Teacher, Rector and staff, after consultation with the Faith Group set up by the Governing Body.

The daily act of Collective Worship is a legal requirement in all schools. In a Church School it should always be Christian worship and it should reflect the traditions of the Church of England. It should provide opportunity for everyone in the school to:

- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Reflect on the attributes of God
- Reflect on the teaching of Christ
- Affirm Christian values and attitudes
- Share each others' joys and challenges
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar
- Foster respect and unity
- Deepen spiritual awareness

(from SDBE Policy Statement)

Aims

At the heart of Coulsdon C of E Primary School lies a serious commitment to worship which reflects Christian belief.

The act of Collective Worship provides time each day for all members of our school community to pray to and worship God. It plays an important role in establishing our community as one based on the ministry and teaching of Jesus.

Collective Worship provides an opportunity for all to contribute to and from which all can gain, no matter what their personal commitment.

The act of worship also helps to establish, embed and give expression to the Christian values which form part of our school ethos.

Agreed Practice

Acts of Collective Worship are daily, planned, intentional experiences providing pupils with opportunities to experience and understand ideas of wonder, justice and responsibility within a reflective and significant atmosphere.

At least once a term, worship takes place in the church of St. John the Evangelist, particularly the services associated with the main Christian festivals of Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Ascension. In addition, the

end of the school year is always marked by celebrating the achievements of the pupils leaving the school and moving on to Secondary School. Parents and friends are always invited to share in these celebrations.

Main Themes for Collective Worship:-

- Events in the Anglican Liturgical Calendar
- Knowledge and understanding of the Bible
- Half-termly themes, based on the 'Values for Life' programme, developed by the Diocese of Gloucester. Bristol and Salisbury.
- Growth of the Early Church

Our school worship takes the following forms:

Three days a week: the whole school joins together as a worshipping community led by the Head Teacher, Deputy or Assistant Head Teacher, and Rector

Once a week: younger and older pupils have separate opportunities for worship which recognise their specific needs. (Key Stages)

Once a week: Achievement and effort is celebrated.

Enrichment Opportunities

- Visits to places of worship including Southwark Cathedral
- Church Services
- Visitors and Christian groups
- Special theme days (e.g. Bible Day)

Resources

Music, books, website links, Bibles, prayer books, artefacts.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship and Church Services are monitored and evaluated regularly in a variety of ways

These include:-

- Termly evaluation meetings as necessary (Faith Group, HT/DHT, Rector)
- Discussions with pupils
- Discussions with staff
- Visits and subsequent oral or written reports from school governors
- Feedback from parents/carers.

Health and Safety

Refer to Health and Safety Policy

Lighting of candles in hall and classrooms.

Parents and Collective Worship

All children are included and are given equal access and opportunities to take part in Collective Worship
Parents do have the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship on the grounds of conscience.

However, we strongly encourage parents to contact the Head Teacher if they have concerns and/or anxieties about policy, provision and practice of Collective Worship at Coulsdon C of E Primary School.

Signed Chair of Faith Group on behalf of the Governors

Signed Head Teacher

Date

Review

This policy is formally reviewed every two years.

Review date: November 2018