

Collective Worship Policy and Procedures



Roselands & Stafford
Federation

Version	Reviewed by	Approved by	Date Approved	Next Review Date
V1	Federation HT	Governors	17.05.2017	17.05.2019

1 Aims and objectives

1.1 The aims and objectives of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for children to worship and reflect
- 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 reinforce our ethos of Achievement for All

2 Collective Worship

2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly.

2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our assemblies on moral issues. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

2.3 While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

3 Organisation of Collective Worship

3.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each morning assembly, which is a whole school assembly or a class assembly on a various days.

3.2 We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

3.3 The Federation Headteacher or other members of staff normally conduct assemblies, but sometimes other representatives of local religious groups conduct them instead.

3.4 We take the themes of our assemblies from various sources including the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programme and we sometimes reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum. We plan our assemblies as part of a series of themes well in advance of the day they take place.

3.5 Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies by showing their work to the other children and to their parents, and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies provide an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised – Achievement for All.

3.6 Parents and carers are invited to attend some assemblies, especially those led by a class. We encourage their attendance, as this promotes community spirit, and shows the school and the homes working together in support of the children's achievements.

3.7 Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcome.

4 Right of withdrawal

4.1 We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents and carers 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.

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of the Federation Headteacher and Governors, who may visit assemblies as part of their programme of monitoring the work of the school.