



Federation of
Wallisdean Infant School (including Wallisdean Pre-School) and Wallisdean Junior School

Collective Worship Policy

The act of collective worship is held each day for the pupils of Wallisdean Infant School in accordance with the requirements of the 1996 Education Act. It is open to staff and pupils of any or no religion.

Philosophy and Rationale

At Wallisdean we value the time we give to Collective Worship and see it as an integral part of the life and work of our schools. It enhances and complements each school's curriculum.

Aims and Objectives

Through our Collective Worship we provide an opportunity to mark and celebrate special events and achievements both within and beyond the school's community. This fosters the children's sense of belonging to the school's community, enables them to recognise their identity within the UK and gives them an understanding of the wider world. Children are encouraged to see the value of having time to reflect, as we feel it is important that they are offered experiences that raise their awareness of the beliefs, values and motivations of others.

Implementation

Our schools' acts of Collective Worship are broadly Christian and based on religious festivals and non – religious events, diversity, rights, respect responsibility and safety. We also celebrate the successes of significant people in history, in the world and in our school community.

The Act of Collective Worship

Through our acts of collective worship, we

- help our children to develop a sense of awe and wonder about the world
- affirm positive values
- encourage responsibility for making personal decisions
- celebrate achievement and special occasions

Reflection is seen as a key part of every assembly. This is a time when everyone present is invited to reflect on a particular issue. Children will be given opportunities to respond in a range of ways, which could include singing together, contributing, poetry, stories, prayer, drama, role play, time to think and be peaceful.

Legal Requirements

- All pupils in attendance on each school day take part in an act of Collective Worship
- We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission to withdraw their child from parts of or all collective worship under section 9 of the 1988 Education Reform Act. The pupil will be withdrawn to a supervised area that promotes quiet reflection during this time. A parent may choose to supervise their child during this time.
- Class teachers with children with individual faiths are responsible for checking the content of assemblies.
- The majority of acts of Collective Worship are a broadly Christian character, reflecting the broad traditions of Christian belief, but links are also made with the beliefs and traditions of other faith groups. The themes support broad principles and views of Christianity and are appropriate whatever the pupil's background or belief.
- Staff have the right to withdraw from all or part of any act of Collective Worship, having discussed this with the Executive Head Teacher.
- The Executive Head Teacher will monitor the quality of Collective Worship.

In the Autumn Term the Early Years pupils follow an age appropriate programme of Collective Worship within their Family Groups. The Foundation Stage Leader plans a phased introduction to introduce those pupils in the Early Years setting to the whole school.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Each member of the teaching staff will lead a whole school assembly once a term and the Executive Head Teacher will monitor the quality of Collective Worship.

This policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the Wallisdean schools

Ratified by FGB: Summer 1 2021

Adopted: Summer 2021 Review: Summer 2024