

Collective Worship (CW) Policy

Philosophy

Hallaton C.E. Primary School is a Church school in a village community. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together in fellowship. It is attended by all students, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.



At Hallaton C.E. Primary School we recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide our students with Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and British Values.

Aims It is our aim at Hallaton C.E. Primary School that worship should: -

- contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child.
- Support the Social and Emotional development of our pupils through considering Christian values.
- give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to praise and reach out to God.
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to respond to Christian language and symbolism
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience a variety of forms of prayer and contemplation. (These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others or quiet reflection)
- to help students to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship
- provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future.

Our collective worship will follow a standard format;

1. Nomination for a child who has shown our Christian Values to light the candle.
2. A religious them or lesson from the bible.
3. A hymn.
4. Time for reflection and a choice to join in with a prayer.
5. The choice to join in with the Whole school prayer.

Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that 'all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship'. We seek to do our best to keep the spirit of this legislation seeking to provide as many high quality acts of worship as is practically possible.

To provide students with variety in their experience of worship acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all pupils or separate acts of worship for students in different age groups or class groups. Collective Worship may be held at any time during the school day and maybe in the church or school.

The responsibility for arranging school worship in our school rests with the head teacher who liaises with the Religious Education Subject Leader and incumbent to ensure Collective Worship is delivered to a high standard.

All acts of worship are in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school which requires worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and therefore will be wholly and distinctly Christian in character

By this we mean that: -

- Worship contains some elements that accord special status to Jesus, his teachings and actions.
- Sharing with students the Christian belief that all Christians are called to continue Jesus' work of love and compassion for their fellow human beings through the exploration of key Christian concepts such as Love, trust, forgiveness, mercy, humility, courage and integrity, respect for life, value of an individual, justice, co-operation and service, honesty and truthfulness.

Acts of Collective Worship at Hallaton C.E. Primary School take into account the students' ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

The school recognises that there is a difference between Acts of Collective Worship and the assembly of students. Distinction is made between these two and pupils understand the need for reverence and reflection during Collective Worship.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Hallaton C.E. Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the headteacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

Students that are withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship will be supervised however; no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teaching staff, including the headteacher, have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship, but the headteacher, should they wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship in Hallaton C.E. Primary School. The right of withdrawal doesn't extend to assemblies.

