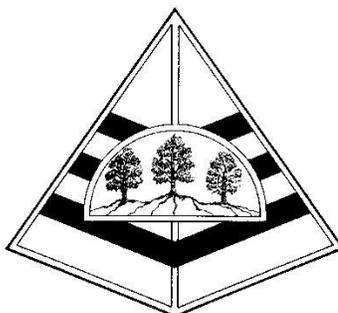


COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

FERNDOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL



Policy to be reviewed by Governor Committee:	Community & Curriculum
Frequency:	3-yearly
Reviewed:	15/10/2014
Reviewed:	18/10/2017
Reviewed:	14/10/2020
Reviewed:	
Reviewed:	
Reviewed:	

This policy has been reviewed in line with the 8 principles set out in the Single Equality Policy and an initial screening Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

Ferndown Middle School Collective Worship Policy

The articles of the United Nations Charter for the Rights of the Child have been considered when creating this policy.

Aims of Collective Worship at Ferndown Middle

'In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. [ERA 1988, Education Act 1993]

ERA [1988] and Education Act [1993] state that acts of worship may contain certain elements drawn from a number of different faiths, but that within each term, the majority of acts of worship must be wholly or mainly of a Christian character.

Many beliefs that are broadly Christian are inclusive to other major world faiths. Examples are God, love, peace, good and evil, greed, poverty, charity, pollution, tolerance, co-operation, prejudice and morality. If a broad and flexible approach is used, collective worship will not affect the integrity of anyone taking part at our school but may develop the spiritual awareness of every individual.

The government requires all schools to provide an act of Collective worship. We provide daily acts of Collective Worship which we believe help children understand some of the features of worship these include:

- Reflect on moral issues
- Explore beliefs
- Experience a sense of wonder
- Experience common prayer
- Have a time for reflection and self-awareness
- Have time to express their own feelings
- Develop a recognition of a Supreme Being and an awareness of religion
- Build a sense of community
- Make links with the wider community
- Celebrate joys and sorrows
- Develop an appreciation of other
- Develop collegiate responsibility
- Have opportunities to raise moral issues
- Experience and develop an awareness of different religions and cultures
- Value and celebrate minority cultures
- Develop knowledge of culture

We have chosen these elements because we believe they are also important features of our everyday life in school and are therefore appropriate responses for all pupils and staff in our community.

The law also requires us to provide pupils with an opportunity to worship God as part of our Collective Worship. We therefore try to provide an opportunity to respond in the form of a time of quiet reflection at some point in each act of collective worship. This is a time for each pupil and adult present to be quiet and think about what they have heard; this will provide opportunity for each to worship God if they should wish to do so.

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The approach to Collective Worship at Ferndown Middle

The acts of collective worship are planned to give pupils a variety of experiences to enable them to reflect on, and respond to, things which we, as a school community, believe are important.

Principles of Assemblies

- Assemblies should be inclusive
- Pupil centred, related to the pupils own experience and relevant to pupil concerns
- They should acknowledge diversity
- Involve pupils as active participants
- They should match the needs of pupils
- They should foster a sense of community
- Assemblies should be educational
- They should be learning experiences
- Be properly planned
- Relate to other curriculum activities
- Provide the school with opportunities to reflect on the education it provides
- Have a purpose and celebrate educational achievements
- Be consistent with the aims of the school
- Assemblies should be spiritual
- Children should feel calm, relaxed and secure
- They should include opportunities for children to take part in a variety of opportunities
- They should include a variety of words, music and images
- A time for reflection

The organisation of Collective Worship at Ferndown

There is an act of Collective worship every day following the pattern shown below:

Monday ~ Thought for the week in tutor time

Tuesday ~ Whole School Assembly

Wednesday ~ Key Stage 2 Assemblies

Thursday ~ Key Stage 3 Assemblies

Friday – Form based activities

The acts of worship follow themes (thought for the week) designed by the Assistant Headteacher, which support the aims of the school. The thought for the week is given to each member of staff. Staff are asked to follow these, allowances are made for marking festivals or other newsworthy events.

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Withdrawal

Parents may ask for their child to be totally or partially withdrawn from Collective worship in accordance with the Education Act. They are advised of this right in the School brochure and asked to contact the headteacher to make arrangements. No reasons have to be given but discussion with parents over the issues concerning withdrawal are recommended. Staff also have the right to withdraw.

Ofsted

Collective Worship must be inspected on a regular basis. This is part of the normal school inspection for Community schools.

Taking Collective Worship at Ferndown

Music will be played for the entry and exit to the assembly.

Children are expected to enter and leave the hall in a silent and orderly manner.

Visitors are encouraged to come into school to take an assembly. The visitors must be booked in advance and scheduled on the calendar. All visitors to the school are expected to comply with the school policy for collective worship