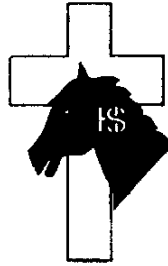


# HORSINGTON CHURCH SCHOOL



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

### RATIONALE

Collective Worship in school is provided so that pupils have the opportunity to worship God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, consider spiritual and moral values, and explore their own beliefs. It should also promote shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.

### AIMS

- To allow children to explore their own beliefs and appreciate the spiritual dimension to life
- To encourage within pupils a response to worship either through active participation or through listening
- To develop a community spirit
- To promote a common ethos and shared values.

### OPERATION

Collective Worship at Horsington School takes place within Assembly time. In accordance with the Trust Deeds of the school the Collective Worship is in sympathy with the Church of England.

It is intended to be appropriate for all pupils in the school.

The Act of Worship takes place each day through the following:

- Worship through music
- Whole School led by Teachers
- Whole School led by Headteacher
- Whole School Celebration of the Week led by Teachers.
- Whole School led by pupils.
- Whole School led by external groups.

Collective Worship will mostly take place on school premises. Other venues include the local church, cathedral or residential settings.

The Act of Worship will be based on:

- Whole School led by religious ministers.
- Monthly Themes which relate to the Christian Year as set out in the Framework.
- Special Events in the Christian Calendar.
- Issues which arise from the everyday life and ethos of the school.

Collective Worship time in school will need to be distinct from other classroom activities with a sense of occasion and togetherness.

The children will be given the opportunity to consider familiar ideas and explore new ones and take an active part in worship. They will experience a diversity of worship practice, which encourages a variety of responses.

For example:

## **1. ELEMENTS OF WORSHIP**

Songs  
 Music  
 Prayer  
 Reflection and contemplation  
 Individual/Group activity  
 Readings  
 Special clothing  
 Artefacts  
 Discussion, speech and silence  
 Food and drink  
 Dance/Drama  
 Use of the senses  
 Artistic imagery  
 Plainness  
 Different seating plans  
 Story

## **2. SENSES AND FEELINGS**

Sense of love  
 Sense of beauty  
 Sense of wonder and awe  
 Sense of pity  
 Feeling of pride  
 Feeling of thankfulness  
 Sense of peace  
 Sense of shared sadness and loss  
 Sense of smallness  
 Sense of grandness  
 Feeling of stillness

## **ACT OF WORSHIP FRAMEWORK**

Most Acts of Worship will be based on the monthly themes which relate to the Christian Church Year, included on the grid are special anniversaries in that month. The Framework should help staff plan Acts of Worship and avoid repetition. Although the themes are revisited annually they are broad enough to allow sufficient choice and flexibility.

## **RECORD KEEPING AND EVALUATION**

Acts of Worship are recorded and act as a reference for staff and a basis for review.

Staff will evaluate Acts of Worship using the Children's Evaluation of Collective Worship sheet at staff meetings. Informal discussions are held with the children based on their evaluations.

A parental right of withdrawal exists and the school will give effect to any such requests which should be made in writing by the parent. The Headteacher will attempt to establish with the parents the basis on which they object to the worship and discuss the practical implications of withdrawal.

Exercising the right of withdrawal will mean the child is not physically present at the Act of Worship.

The statutory requirements for Collective Worship, in accordance with the Anglican Trust Deed of this school, are the responsibility of the Governing Body. They must ensure that they meet the terms and principles of this policy statement.

## **CONCLUSION**

This policy is written in accordance with the Aims of the school and has been agreed by all members of staff. It forms one part of the Operational Policies of the school and should be considered alongside other relevant policy statements. It will be reviewed at regular intervals.

Reviewed: September 2013

Reviewed: December 2017