



A School Partnership In Rural England

Motto : ‘ **We Aspire to Inspire**’

Our Values – using the initials of the names of the schools.

K – Kindness

U – Understanding

P – Patience

H – Honesty

L – Love

B – Boldness

**Collective Worship Policy for:
Kingswood Primary School
Platts Heath Primary School**

Document History

Original Kingswood Policy Reviewed and Adapted for use also with Platts Heath January 2020.

Reviewed and approved by EHT January 2020. Approval noted at Federation GB 14 January 2020

Reviewed by F Steer HoS Jan 2021 and approved by EHT. Approval noted at Federation GB 16 March 2021.

Tri-Annual review.

The term ‘school’ refers to the schools in the ASPIRE Federation: Kingswood Primary, Ulcombe CE Primary, Platts Heath Primary and Leeds and Broomfield CE Primary. The term may refer to them jointly or individually.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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Aim

- * To bring pupils together and foster a sense of community and shared values
- * To foster an understanding of the world we live in
- * To provide opportunities for pupils to recognise their own worth and potential and to praise achievement
- * To foster a concern for the needs of other people
- * To give time for silent reflection
- * To enhance spiritual growth without infringing the integrity of pupils belief

General Principles

- At Kingswood and Platts Heath the collective act of worship is referred to as an "assembly."
- R.E. and collective worship complement each other, but are separate activities within the school. The Assembly is non denominational.
- The daily Assembly is mainly Christian content with festivals of other faiths celebrated as appropriate.
- Many values and beliefs, which are part of the broad tradition of Christian belief, are widely held in society at large, e.g. an awareness and regard for the natural world and the benefits of shared interests and such values are explored and celebrated in school Assembly.
- Pupils come from a range of backgrounds and it is our intention that no child will feel uncomfortable, or placed in a position that will compromise family values and beliefs.
- Assembly is a time for listening and reflecting, relevant to the age and aptitude of the pupils. Stories, poetry, pictures, music and the thoughts of others, from a range of sources, provide the focus for listening and reflecting. Children's thinking is actively encouraged through questioning.
- Explicit confessions of faith through prayer or song, which may be inappropriate to the family beliefs of some pupils, will not be used.

Format and Organisation of Collective Worship

- The time allocated for each assembly is 15 minutes.
- A weekly "Celebration Assembly", open to parents, provides a regular opportunity for pupils to recognise their own worth and potential and to praise achievement.
- A weekly class assembly provides the opportunity for the class teacher to personalise and reflect on the message or theme for the week and its meaning.
- A time for quiet reflection after sharing a story, poem or play should be allowed during the course of the week. This develops reflective skills in pupils of all ages and enhances spiritual growth without infringing the integrity of pupils' beliefs.
- Music, a picture and occasionally a lighted candle (the thinking candle) will help pupils to be still and quiet during this time. Pupils are provided with the opportunity to worship God, if they so wish (one of the stated aims of collective worship [Circular 1/94 50] and may be invited to share in a time of prayer or personal reflection but not be directed to "say a prayer". (See Appendix I).
- Each class prepares and leads one Assembly, each year.

Notices

The Assembly does not include the giving of notices but it may be necessary on occasions to speak to the whole school and it may be expedient to do so after the close of the collective act of worship.

Visiting Speakers

Visiting speakers can be of great value but need clear guidance on their brief. Extreme caution is to be exercised particularly where invitations are sought by religious groups or individuals to take part in a collective act of worship. Any proposed visits must be approved by the Headteacher.

[reference: Appendix 6 of Developing Good Practice in Collective Worship Kent Sacre Guidance 1994]

Parental Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship. Any parent wishing to exercise their right must do so in writing to the Headteacher.

Legal Requirements

All registered pupils should take part in a daily act of worship of a "broadly Christian character" but which should not be distinctive of any religious denomination.

[reference: DFE Circular 1/94 Religious Education and Collective Worship]

Planning and recording

The planning of themes is linked to Christian & other festivals and themes in PSHCE. See Appendix II for a copy of planning sheet. This will also form the record of coverage.

References

Developing Good Practice in Collective Worship Kent Sacre Guidance 1994
DFE Circular 1/94 Religious Education and Collective Worship

APPENDIX I

Prayer

Prayer is defined as "a personal communication or petition addressed to a deity, especially in the form of supplication, adoration, praise, contrition, or thanksgiving, and prayers are defined as "a form of devotion, either public or private" [Collins English Dictionary]

Pupils should be given the **opportunity to pray but should not be directed to do so.**

Any prayers that might be used introducing a carefully formulated set of words which opens up the opportunity for reflection and worship, but does not require or expect all pupils to worship or pray.

Introducing a time of reflection

"Please reflect on the following words of a Christian (or Jewish or Muslim) prayer"

"In a moment of silence think about the words of....."

"Let us now be still with our own thoughts or prayers"

"Now we will have a time of quiet when we can think about / reflect on the story/poem/words etc we have heard."

"We will light our thinking candle and be still to think about..."

Examples of reflections and prayers are in the "Assembly File" stored in HT office

This is an example of a School Prayer that could be used.

"This is our school. Let peace dwell here. Let the room be full of contentment, and let love abound here, love of one another, love of mankind, love of life itself and love of God. Let us remember that as many hands build a house so many hearts make a school."

APPENDIX II

<i>WEEK BEGINNING</i>	<i>DAY</i>	<i>NOTES</i>	<i>THEME</i>	<i>REFERENCE:</i>	<i>MUSIC/SONG</i>	<i>STAFF</i>
	Monday					
	Tuesday					
	Wednesday					
	Thursday					
	Friday	Celebration Assembly				