



Borden Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

<i>Document Control</i>	<i>CW May 2016 V1</i>	<i>Next review May 2019</i>
<i>Linked Policies</i>		

At Borden CEP School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. We therefore aim to provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs,

“To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God and to devote the will to the purpose of God”.

William Temple (1881-1894)

Mission Statement

We aim to create a happy, secure and Christian learning environment for all members of our school community.

Introduction

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our values of hope, love and forgiveness and celebrates the contribution that each child makes to our community. Worship will reflect the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognize and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors.

Aims

Collective worship at Borden C of E Primary School will support the school's Mission Statement, by providing opportunities for students and staff:

- to explore a relationship with God in Jesus Christ
- to reflect on values that are of a broadly Anglican Christian tradition, whilst recognizing the validity and importance of other Christian denominations, religions and belief systems
- to consider spiritual and moral issues and, through reflection, raise awareness of the ultimate questions of life relating to matters of faith
- to reflect on their own beliefs
- to deepen and widen the experience of those of 'faith' and encourage those of 'little or no formal faith' so that they begin to feel for themselves something of what it means to worship
- to develop an enquiring mind and express and explore their own views openly and honestly
- to develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- to foster an awareness of the world around them and a sense of their place within it
- to develop a respect for and an understanding of different beliefs
- to develop a sense of sharing and belonging through different groups of students coming together

The Anglican Christian Tradition

The following may be described as shared Christian elements of collective worship:

- Using the Bible, either as a source of knowledge and inspiration for themes and stories
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Saints Days
- Learning and saying prayers from a number of sources, in particular the Lord's Prayer and the Grace
- Singing a wide variety of hymns and songs from traditional to rap
- Experiencing Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning e.g. cross, crucifix, wine and candles
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection
- Using Psalms with simple responses

Whilst these are more distinctively Anglican:

- Using prayers from Common Worship
- Using Anglican sentences and responses e.g. *The Lord is here / His Spirit is with us. Peace be with you/ and also with you*
- *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord / In the name of Christ,*
- *Amen*
- Using prayers as a focus for worship
- Celebrating Eucharist
- Encouraging links with the worship of the local Parish Church

Implementation

Collective worship is a legal requirement. Each school must provide a Christian act of collective worship for all pupils every day. This act of worship can take place at any time of the school day and in any regular school grouping e.g. whole school, key stage or class.

The school plans collective worship in a variety of ways.

- a) The Head of School and any teaching member of staff plans and delivers collective worship
- b) There is a weekly timetable for collective worship which may differ year on year which is agreed with the staff.
- c) others who are involved with worship include the Church Army, Family Trust, local Church priest, other visitors linked to the Church..
- d) Collective worship follows the Diocese worship plans and is available to all staff who lead worship through the Canterbury Diocese web site.
- e) a variety of worship experiences are used including, prayer, music, hymns, reflection, Bible readings, images, acting, objects etc

f) A collective worship file is kept by the Head of School and a record of the collective worship each week is kept noting the resources and themes.

g) A budget will be allocated yearly from the general school budget and will be managed by the RE co-ordinator to be used to facilitate the development of RE and collective worship linked to the SIAMs report and the school plan.

h) Pupils are encouraged to read prayers, to act and read Bible passages as part of whole school collective worship and as part of worship in class.

Monitoring and Evaluation

a) Governors evaluate a minimum of three Collective Worship sessions a year.

b) Pupils evaluate a minimum of 6 Collective worship sessions a year.

c) Pupil voice meetings are held a minimum of three times a year with all ages of children. These meetings may include discussion with the School Council.

Self-assessment and Inspection

School Self-assessment will be completed on the SIAMs tool kit by the Head of School, the Executive Head teacher, the RE co-ordinator and the Governor responsible for RE.

Parental Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from acts of collective worship on grounds of conscience. However, as collective worship is central to our ethos so we would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this decision with parents.

If students are withdrawn from Collective worship they are supervised outside the hall by an adult, no work is given to the child unless supplied by the parents and children are reintegrated for any notices or presentations.