Sherborne C of E Primary School – Collective Worship Policy

Created by: Flora Ellis
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Date of next review:

September 2021

Version	Date	Page	Description of Change	Origin of Change
1	12/11/2018	All	New Policy	Flora Ellis

Monitoring and Evaluation

The subject leader is responsible for updating this policy in line with any new developments in the school and new government guidance. All staff are expected to follow the policy and the subject leader will be responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of practice across the school, reporting to the Headteacher.

Discussed by the staff: November 2018 Signed: _____

Discussed by the Governing Body: November 2018 Signed: _____

Intention of the Policy

At Sherborne C of E Primary School, we encourage the development of personal, social and moral values to ensure all children are ready for their next steps and this policy is used to ensure this. We come together so that we may celebrate together and share common values, develop a reflective approach to living and thinking deeply and to encourage feelings of community. We believe that everyone should challenge and question their own thinking and the views of others.

Aims

- to develop a respect for each other's beliefs and opinions
- to encourage Christian personal, social and moral values
- to encourage children to think about the big questions that life poses
- to consider the importance of prayer and reflection, including silence
- to recognise the uniqueness of each individual
- to care and respect others and recognise their needs
- to foster an appreciation of the world and an awareness of our responsibility for it
- to provide a richness and variety of experiences
- to understand and reference major world faiths

Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

School Practice

We gather together for collective worship every day. Every week our local Church of England vicar leads one of the weekly acts of worship, one is led by pupils using 'Open the Book' resources, and others are led by the head teacher and other members of staff.

Structure: At the start of each worship, a table is set up in liturgical colours and candles are lit to represent the Trinity. Next a Bible reading linked to our school values is read out by a pupil. After which, we give thanks through a values-linked session. At the end we say a prayer and reflect on the meaning of the worship.

During daily worship we might also share pupil's contributions, readings and stories, or we might perform drama, explore artefacts or watch films. All daily worship will include some form of prayer,

reflection and music. We also respond to local, national or world events (or a need from the children), that merit reflection and prayers.

In addition, children also attend five services in church each year: an Easter service, Start of Year service, Harvest Festival, Christmas Nativity and an End of Year service.

Our school values

Respect	**Trust**	**Friendship**
Courage	**Forgiveness**	**Thankfulness**

Each value is looked at for a term and all worship is planned around this value, as well as being promoted throughout the school. Care is taken to ensure that understanding of each value is also expressed through Bible readings and the example of Jesus.

Evaluation and Monitoring

The RE co-ordinator monitors whole school and class acts of worship throughout the year, alongside the SMT and governors. The quality of worship in school is also evaluated by the Bishop's Visitor on his/her annual visit. From time to time pupils are asked for their opinions in discussion groups and their views are taken into account in future planning of worship.

This policy works in conjunction with the following policies:

- Religious Education Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Safeguarding Policy