



The Federation of Boskenwyn & Germoe Schools



Collective Worship Policy

Context

The schools serve a rural community. The majority of children at Germoe are mostly Christian, at Boskenwyn, it is a little more diverse, with parents and carers having a range of beliefs. A small percentage of the children and their parents come from other ethnic and religious backgrounds, and pupils are aware of developments and influences in a wider world through family and personal contacts, the media and from their education.

It is part of the aims of the schools to address the needs of all its pupils, offering a wide ranging education to prepare them for life, not only in their community but in a wider world.

To this end, collective worship is seen to be part of the schools broadly based and balanced curriculum.

Legal Requirements

(for details see ERA 1988 Ed Act 1993 and Circular 1/94)

All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship.

As the schools are a community school, collective worship must be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character", that is be within the broad traditions of Christian beliefs, on the majority of occasions as agreed by the Cornwall RE syllabus.

Collective worship must be non-denominational in community schools.

(Teachers' right of withdrawal is safeguarded)

Aims for Collective Worship

Collective worship is an essential element in the school's promotion of the spiritual and moral development of pupils as required by ERA 1988:

(Worship is understood as an act of collective worship in a community school and can be interpreted very openly and widely as an act which brings a school group to a point where they are able to make a shared, reflective response to a divine being, power, ideal or value of some worth, wholly or mainly within the broad traditions of Christian belief on the majority of occasions)

Aims have been agreed with the governors to be the following:

- to establish, affirm and celebrate the common and shared values of the school.
- to nurture the identity and nature of the school as a community.
- to develop in pupils an awareness of and a sense of belonging to, the many different dimensions of the school's community.

- to provide a daily focal point in the life of the school for transmission and development of all that the school stands for in terms of beliefs, values, moral codes and community ethos.
- to develop positive attitudes among the pupils.
- to provide an opportunity for pupils to worship God.
- to enable pupils to come to terms with their own beliefs, values and commitments and with those of others.
- to create an experience which promotes thought and reflection and which promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- to provide a chance to reflect on a variety of situations and to make a personal response.
- to create a sense of gathering for a purpose.
- to support and enhance other whole school curriculum policies through worship, focusing on areas being covered in classroom lessons.

Approaches

Daily worship is provided on the school premises, in the Halls or in the classrooms, through the following means:

- acts of worship in class
- acts of worship by keystage group assemblies
- acts of worship by cross key stage mixed assemblies
- whole school acts of worship and assembly
- Regular acts of worship delivered by the church and local community.

Leaders

Headteacher
 R E Lead Professional
 Class teachers
 Visitors as invited

Management

Responsibility for collective worship in the school lies with the Lead Professional, who has delegated its organisation to all Staff.

The task of the Staff is:

- to prepare suggested themes for collective worship for each term and attend specific senior management meetings to participate in planning the extension and detailing of these themes.
- to establish and maintain a resource base.
- to ensure at least two visiting speakers per term.
- to assist in liaison with local community in terms of visitors.

- to attend courses relevant to collective worship and inform staff of their content.
- to attend collective worship as far as practicable.

Methods

There should be a suitable variety of methods for collective worship to enable the experience to be as valued and relevant to pupils as possible. There will also be a ritual element associated with some of these methods to allow pupils to benefit from the security and pattern of worshipping together. They will include the following as is appropriate to the nature of the occasion:

Music on entry and exit.

Use of prayers, including children's own and the Lord's Prayer.

Readings from suitable sources, including the Bible, but also other sources of worth.

Storytelling, Drama.

Involvement of children in presenting their own prayers and thoughts, participating in any of the above and in moments of reflection and silence.

Worship focus on areas of the curriculum being followed in classrooms, thus providing support of and involvement in other whole school policies.

Use of visitors - when visitors are invited to speak to school assemblies and acts of collective worship, they will be informed, in good time, by letter, of what is required in terms of content, presentation and time to make the experience as effective and educational as possible for all concerned.

See Appendix 2

Monitoring

Staff will attend worship throughout the year and evaluate terms themes and acts of worship.

Development

Collective worship can feature in the school development plan. The following developments are desirable:

- Assessment for learning
- Inset
- Resourcing
- Community involvement
- Monitoring

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed biennially. Its implementation and effectiveness will be monitored by staff and governors.

Reviewed: September 2023

Next review: September 2025

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P Blackburn Executive Headteacher

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R Monhemius Chair of Governor