The Federation of Boskenwyn & Germoe Schools and Nysgerrig Kindergarten

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All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents.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 Hall or in the classrooms, through the following means:

- acts of worship in class and moments of quiet reflection

- acts of worship by key stage 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, local community and other visitors.

Leaders

Headteacher

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 consider the Learner Profiles when planning assemblies.

- 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:

Collaborative singing through specific chosen songs on a two week cycle.

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 of what is required in terms of content, presentation and time to make the experience as effective and educational as possible for all concerned.

Here is an overview of some of the assemblies held with our children to help them gain a better understanding of our school values, the Learner profiles, British Values, equality, diversity and inclusion as we strive to help our community gain cultural capital and a better understanding of the wider world.

September	Our School Values: The Learner Profiles New beginnings
October	Black History Month The Harvest festival Visitors from church Divali
November	Remembrance (lined to Remembrance Day) 2 minutes silence Anti bullying awareness and cyber bullying Bonfire night safety
December	Christingle service visit to church Advent Adventures in church Nativity presentations Christmas carol service
January	New beginnings World Religion Day, Respect and tolerance of others
February	Children's mental health week E-safety – safer internet day Love of story: National storytelling week
March	Love of reading – World book day Diversity (linked to Holi Festival of Colours) British Science week

April	Easter visit to church – The Easter experience Earth day
May	Celebration around the Maypole and visit to church Mental health awareness week
June	Mazey day celebrations in Penzance
July	Moving on, saying goodbye, leavers assembly.

In addition to this, every Friday during Celebration Assembly, we celebrate achievements and children talk about their learning of the week, we also sing together a chosen song for the whole school.

Monitoring
Staff will attend worship throughout the year and evaluate the term's 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: October 2026
Next review: November 2027

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P Blackburn, Executive Headteacher

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L Yeomans, M Bland, Chair of Governors