



Coppice Primary School
Collective Worship Policy

RATIONALE

Acts of collective worship provide opportunities for the school community of diverse individuals from different family and faith backgrounds to meet together. At Coppice Primary School we will comply with the relevant legislation relating to collective worship in schools. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

THE AIMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT COPPICE

Collective worship should provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- worship God if they wish
- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs and those of others
- demonstrate respect for the integrity of individuals and faiths
- develop an understanding of British Values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- participate, where possible, and respond
- develop a wider understanding of the world around them including the Rights of all children
- foster self esteem through celebrating a range of achievements and special occasions, and to share feelings such as thankfulness, joy, friendship, sadness or hope.
- value everyone's cultural origins
- develop a sense of group identity and provide experiences of being part of a community and therefore developing a understanding of community spirit, a common ethos and shared values

THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

- All pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents) must take part in an act of collective worship every day.
- There may be a single act of collective worship through a whole school assembly or separate acts for pupils in different age groups and school groups. These can be held at any point during the school day.
- The head teacher is, after consultation with the governing body, responsible for arranging daily collective worship.

- Taken over the school term, the majority of collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character but not be distinctive of any particular denomination.
- Collective worship should be appropriate to the family backgrounds, ages and abilities of the pupils.
- Acts of collective worship should take place on the school premises.
- Parents have a right to withdraw their children from any or all acts of collective worship.

ORGANISATION

On a Monday through to Thursday, assemblies take place between 10.00 – 10.15. On a Friday, a longer assembly takes place beginning at 9.00 a.m. Teachers are required to deliver collective worship to their class on either a Wednesday or Thursday. This can be done at a time of their choice.

Each class from Reception to Year 5 will deliver a class assembly at some point during the school year as part of the Friday assembly. Each year group also delivers an assembly on a given Article taken from the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Once a term, a Monday assembly is used to launch a safeguarding week where children throughout the school focus on one of the following themes: Diversity & Tolerance, Keeping Ourselves Safe and Extremism/Prevent

The rota is planned by the Assistant Headteacher each term and includes a theme for each week, key religious and other significant dates. It is also made clear to teachers when the theme links to No Outsiders books (Picture Books suggested in No Outsiders in Our School by Andrew Moffat), Children’s Rights (articles) and British Values. Themes are drawn from: significant religious dates (e.g. Easter), other significant dates (e.g. Black History Month), from British Values (e.g. Democracy), school values (e.g. Respect), Building Learning Power (e.g. resilience), SMSC requirements as well as supporting the P.S.H.E & R.S.H.E curriculums taught within school. A variety of resources are available to aid planning, including story books, assembly file materials, prayer books and artefacts, and are stored alongside the R.E resources. Each year group also has copy of a children’s Bible.

Outside visitors are also included in the assembly rota where possible. Special assemblies are planned during the Autumn term to celebrate Harvest and Christmas and links have been made with local churches.

	Type of collective worship
Monday	Whole school assembly led by members of the SLT.
Tuesday	Key stage 1 collective worship in class Key stage 2 singing and thought for the day
Wednesday	Key stage 1 singing and thought for the day

	Key stage 2 collective worship in class
Thursday	Celebration assembly led by class teachers (including celebration of achievements inside and outside of school as well as the weekly house points).
Friday	Whole school assembly. Head or Deputy & Class Assemblies

RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

Any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending collective worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. This is made clear to all parents in the school prospectus.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The assembly rota and timetable is subject to change to react to events that may impact the children e.g. a national emergency. Organisation may also be changed considering national restrictions put in place.

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

Policy date: April 2021

Policy due for renewal:

Date agreed by the Governing Body:

Signed: (Chair of the Governing Body)