

Coppermill Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Ratified by the Curriculum and Achievement Committee
January 2016

To be reviewed: Every two years

Next review: Spring 2018

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

At Coppermill, collective worship encompasses all aspects of school life and every member of the school community. In keeping with legal requirements, our acts of collective worship are '*wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character,*' but concentrate largely on the values which portray the ethos and community of our school and the wider community. Its purpose is very closely bound to the broad aims of SMSC development. In particular, we use acts of collective worship as valuable opportunities:

- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- To develop and strengthen the community spirit.
- To celebrate and appreciate achievements in pupils' own lives and in the context of the school and wider community (local, national and international) as well as occasions of significance, including festivals.
- For pupils to become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the school and wider community, and show an interest in other members of the school community.
- To encourage pupils to recognise their own worth and to understand and respect humanity, diversity and difference in others, and develop a sense of empathy.
- For pupils to share what is important to them.
- To explore the language which people use to express their feelings.
- To grow in confidence when making a presentation to the group or whole school.
- To respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus.
- To provide opportunities to develop the imagination.
- To provide opportunities for pupils to use all their senses and use a range of activities such as singing, dancing, drama, prayer.
- To provide a special time separate from ordinary school activities.
- To experience moments of stillness and reflection.
- To create an atmosphere conducive to a sense of peace and tranquillity.
- To deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them.

PLANNING AND ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective worship assemblies are planned on a weekly basis based on the Coppermill values - Encouragement, Enthusiasm, Friendship, Kindness, Respect, Teamwork and Truth; as well as following the religious festival calendar. The themes of our assemblies sometimes reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the curriculum. Assemblies also reflect the achievements and learning of the pupils and offer opportunities to acknowledge and reward pupils for their achievements both in and out of school.

We invite parents/carers to assemblies as this promotes the community spirit of our school and is a practical demonstration of the way home and school work together to support and celebrate the successes of our pupils.

Collective worship, whether whole school, key phase or class-based will:

- Be accessible to all staff and pupils.
- Commence daily.
- Include a variety of elements such as, stories, discussion, drama, dance, art, artefacts, music, Power point or computer-based graphics, and video.

- Involve the pupils in as many ways as possible.

Assembly Procedures:

- Staff are expected to interact with pupils and to be proactive in managing behaviour.
- Music will be played before and at the end of assembly.
- Teachers need to lead classes into the hall in a calm, quiet and orderly manner.
- Where possible vulnerable pupils need to sit near teachers.
- The teacher leading the assembly is responsible for preparing and clearing the hall.
- There needs to be a marked moment of silent reflection near the close of the assembly to ensure that there is an element of 'awe and wonder' as prescribed by the Department for Education's Collective Worship guidelines; a candle may be lit at this time.

Assembly Agenda:

Day	Staff member leading Pupils attending	Theme/Focus
Monday	Senior Teacher Whole school	Attendance award/Midday team award/Headteacher Tea party 'raffle' announcement/Birthdays
Tuesday	Class teacher KS1 Values assembly KS2 PSHE session in class/P4C	Value of the week Link to PSHE curriculum/P4C
Wednesday	Music teacher KS1 Singing assembly KS2 Singing assembly	Linked to music curriculum and/or relevant whole school festival, such as Christmas/Harvest
Thursday	Class teacher KS2 Values assembly KS1 PSHE session in class/P4C	Value of the week Link to PSHE curriculum/P4C
Friday	Headteacher/Assistant Headteacher	Whole School Celebration Assembly

Right of Withdrawal:

We expect all pupils to attend assembly. However, parents can request permission for their child to be excused from attending collective worship. The school will make alternative arrangements for supervision of the child during that time.

LINKS WITH WIDER COMMUNITY

Parents/carers are regularly invited to assemblies that celebrate the successes of our pupils, and to strengthen the school's relationship with its parents. Governors are welcome to assemblies at any time. Where it is appropriate to invite outside guests for a more enriching experience, for example during assemblies about religious festivals, we will endeavour to do so.