



ASHLEY INFANT SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The daily act of collective worship at Ashley Infant School follows the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act in being 'wholly or broadly of a Christian character'

PRINCIPLE

Collective worship at Ashley is an integral part of the broad and balanced curriculum to which all our children are entitled. It is a special time when the school community comes together to share and participate. It provides a time for the school community to engage in the collective expression and exploration of religious, moral and spiritual ideas and values important to the ethos of Ashley Infant School. Collective worship presents a stimulus with which individuals can identify. It gives opportunities for individuals to be informed and challenged at their own stage of intellectual and emotional development. Individuals' responses, feelings and thoughts are respected.

Responsible:	R.E Subject Team
Date agreed by governing body:	2001
Reviewed:	2007

AIMS

- To encourage the children to learn how to be part of large and small gatherings as well as offering opportunities to perform and respond to a presentation
- To develop their knowledge of Christian values, beliefs, celebrations and patterns of worship
- To develop their awareness of other beliefs, traditions, cultures and patterns of worship
- To develop a sense of their own worth and value
- To consider spiritual and moral issues
- To foster a sense of wonder, joy and awe at the beauty, mystery and power of the world
- To develop a community spirit and a sense of belonging to a caring community
- To foster respect for other people and a concern for their needs
- To re-enforce positive attitudes and school rules and an understanding of the difference between right and wrong
- To allow reflection and stillness in a busy day
- To provide a time for sharing special achievements and celebrations in personal, school and community life

ORGANISATION

Collective worship is planned as a 2 yearly cycle. There is one theme for each week

Collective worship takes place daily. If whole school collective worship is unable to take place then it will be held in classes or year groups.

The weekly plan of assemblies is:-

Monday - Head Teacher
Tuesday - Deputy Head Teacher
Wednesday - Class Teacher(Rota)
Thursday - Reflection in classrooms
Friday - Celebration Assembly

PRESENTATION

Collective worship can be broader, richer and more rewarding if presented by a variety of people. Presenters can include staff at Ashley, Ministers, Governors, visiting groups, speakers, members of the local community, groups of children and whole classes.

The traditional elements of worship such as prayers and music can be supported by other elements to create stimulating enjoyable and imaginative presentations.

These include:-

Poetry	Discussions
Songs and music	Reflective silence and stillness
Art	Stories and Readings
Display of Artefacts	Audio-visual aids
Dance and drama	Children's own contributions/work
Lighted candles	Natural objects

- It should be remembered that prayer can involve words but does not necessarily have to. Prayer can often be a still and quiet reflection. Children can be invited to reflect by focusing their attention on a stimulus, such as a lighted candle, or by listening to music or a poem. Prayer can be said with eyes open or closed, with or without hands together.
- We aim to create an atmosphere of calmness prior to the start of collective worship and therefore expect the children to walk quietly into the hall. Music is played for the children to enter and leave the hall. The music is changed weekly.

RESPONSE

Our collective act of worship provides the opportunities to: _

- Focus on a particular stimulus or theme
- Reflect on a theme or issue
- Contribute own ideas and experiences
- Sing or say prayer
- Experience silence and thinking time
- Develop a sense of reverence

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

It is important that children have access to all experience within collective worship irrespective of gender, age, aptitude, race or religion.

WITHDRAWAL

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. Any child who is withdrawn is supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.
Teachers have the right to withdraw from collective worship.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

All children will be encouraged to attend whole school collective worship. Children with specific needs will be encouraged to attend by gradually increasing the length of time spent in collective worship.

MONITORING

Assemblies will be discussed once a term at a staff meeting to evaluate: -

- ◆ Organisation and Themes
- ◆ Presentation
- ◆ Response and Participation
- ◆ Is collective worship meeting the aims

	HEADTEACHER	DEPUTY HEADTEACHER	CLASS TEACHER
(A) AUTUMN (1)	School Rules	Stages of Life	Precious Things
AUTUMN (2)	Music	Communities at Work – the importance of shared values.	Autumn/Christmas traditions
SPRING (1)	Abilities, Achievements and good ideas	People from around the world	Stories from around the world
SPRING (2)	Britain as a multi-cultural and multi faith society.	Our World – physical and living things	People who have made the world a better place
SUMMER (1)	Conservation	Working together.	All about me
SUMMER (2)	Differences and respecting others	Stories Jesus told	Favourite places
(B) AUTUMN (1)	School rules/school life	Houses and Homes	Communication
AUTUMN (2)	Festivals and Celebrations	Feelings including worries and fears	Winter/Christmas around the world
SPRING (1)	Choices	Our World – Creation	Favourite Bible stories
SPRING (2)	Symbols – Light, Water and Fire	Reflection	Senses
SUMMER (1)	Weather	People Jesus met	Caring for our world
SUMMER (2)	Preparing for change	Families	Memories