

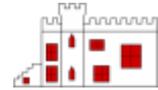


**School Policy**

## **Collective Worship Policy**

**September 2016, Issue 3**

Document Number: AP-10



## Document Approval

This document was reviewed and approved by the Governing Body as appropriate and effective.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*If this is one of the 2 official copies the Approver shall write "Copy 1" or "Copy 2" and initial here:*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

## Document Review

The Governing Body will review this policy to ensure that it is appropriate and effective whenever necessary, and not less than once every four years.

## Document Control

There is one controlled paper copy of this document in the Policies File in the Junior Building. An electronic version is also available on our website in the policies area.

**All other copies (electronic and paper) are uncontrolled.**

## Document History

Filename: AP-07 Collective Worship Policy(1.0).doc				
Issue	Description of Change	Author	Checked	Date
A	Initial	JRE		14-6-09
B	Reviewed by Policy Working Group February 2010	SB		12-2-10
1.0	Approved and Issued	JRE	SB	21-2-10
2	Reviewed by the CPS	JB	CPS	26.3.14
3	Reviewed by the policies committee	JB	PC	Sept 2016

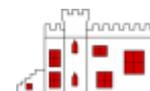
### North and South Cowton Community Primary School

North Cowton  
Northallerton  
DL7 0HF

Telephone: 01325 378240

E-mail: [admin@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Web: [www.northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk)



## 1 Aims and purpose

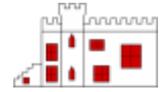
- 1.1 The aims and purpose of collective worship are:
- i. to provide an opportunity for children to worship God;
  - ii. to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
  - iii. to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
  - iv. to encourage participation and response;
  - v. to develop in children a sense of community spirit; and
  - vi. to promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes.

## 2 Collective worship

- 2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all the children coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly (subject to Section 4, below).
- 2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.
- 2.3 While most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

## 3 Organisation of collective worship

- 3.1 We hold an act of collective worship on every day of the week. This usually forms part of our whole-school assembly, which we hold in the hall. A member of the Christian community delivers our celebration assembly on a Friday.
- 3.2 We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings, and to participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, and other objects, to focus the attention of the children.
- 3.3 The assemblies are normally conducted by the headteacher or other members of staff, the local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups.
- 3.4 We take the themes of our assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith, and we observe the festivals and mark the events of the religious calendar. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum. We plan our assemblies in advance of the day they take place.
- 3.5 Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies by showing their work to the other children, and by raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised. Our school is a successful school, and we shall continue to celebrate the successes of all our children at our assemblies.
- 3.6 Parents are invited to themed assemblies every term. We encourage their attendance, as this promotes community spirit, and shows the school and the home working together in support of the children's achievements.
- 3.7 Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcome.



## **4 Right of withdrawal**

- 4.1 We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2 The headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.

## **5 Monitoring and review**

- 5.1 Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the responsibility of the governors; this role is performed by the CPS committee and through governor visits.
- 5.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every four years.