

Rational

Collective Worship plays a very important role in our school. It is an opportunity to celebrate and nurture all aspects of school life, to support our values and our curriculum and to provide an opportunity for stillness and reflection in what is often a very busy, active day for our children.

Aims

The central aims of Collective Worship at Broadhempston Primary School are to:

- provide our children with regular opportunities for stillness, reflection and response.
- highlight the core values which we uphold as a school.
- promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the gifts and talents of our children.
- provide opportunity to reflect upon the meaning and purpose of life, developing a sense of awe and wonder.
- help children develop and understand both the nature and language of worship
- help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others
- support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.

The Legal Position

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils. Furthermore, acts of worship "must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief."

At Broadhempston School we have developed a range of themes and topics through which collective worship takes place. Key themes/values include Kindness, Respect, Trust, Courage, Creativity and Community. We believe these themes/values are clearly Christian in nature but are universal in their application. We recognise that in our school we have children from a variety of faith backgrounds and that many children have no religious background at all. Great care is taken in our collective worship to ensure that all children feel valued and special and that their integrity as human beings is consistently upheld.

Collective Worship at Broadhempston is an inclusive activity. Parents do have, of course, the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly encouraged to contact the Head teacher.

Collective Worship and Assembly

An assembly is a gathering of part or all of our school. Part of it can be concerned with administrative matters and other announcements about school life. It is of utmost importance that collective worship is seen to be distinct from those parts of the assembly that are concerned solely with administration. Collective worship is a context for allowing an individual to make a spiritual response freely if it is appropriate for them.

Context of Collective worship

In order to promote children's learning, our acts of worship vary in size. Our pattern is set out below;-

Monday – Whole School Assembly – Introducing a theme, value, British value.

Tuesday – Class Assembly – Theme follow up with classteachers

Wednesday – Class Assembly – Continuation of follow up

Thursday – Class Assembly – Singing

Friday – Celebration Assembly – Whole School

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and regularly contribute to acts of worship. We carefully plan for and record our acts of worship to ensure a fresh and relevant programme which we can then evaluate for further development. We use a range of resources to enhance children's learning. These include stories, music, poetry, art, drama, use of artefacts and online material, all of which we hope contribute to a stimulating and reflective time for our children.

We also believe collective worship makes a very important contribution to community cohesion in the following ways:

School Community- through our key themes/values and children's participation in Collective worship we develop happy inspired and respectful children at the heart of our community and all we do.

Local Community- we encourage a range of regular visitors from our local community to enrich collective worship and support our children's understanding of faith and beliefs

UK Community- we use powerpoints, dvds, stories and other resources in our acts of worship to reflect the diversity of life and faiths in the UK.

Global Community- we use stories, music and online materials to enrich children's understanding of faiths and cultures around the world and, at times, focus on giving to specific causes.

Reviewed by the Board of Trustees: 7 December 2020