



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Banister Primary School

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Collective worship policy

Introduction:

This document outlines the purpose, nature and operational management of collective worship in Banister Primary.

Banister Primary is a welcoming and inclusive school that represents a diverse community ethnically, culturally and in its religious nature. We are committed to making everyone feel a valued part of our community, building a foundation of respect and tolerance for all. Children are encouraged to share their own beliefs and values together, which is valued and seen as an integral way to broaden our understanding of modern day society in multi-cultural and multi-faith England.

(For further information of our specific school values please see our website)

Legal requirements:

Collective worship is a statutory requirement within all schools which stipulates the need for a separate and distinctive identifiable daily time in the school day that is different to lessons including Religious Education. "In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character" as outlined in the Education Act (1944), Education Reform Act (1988) and the Education Act (1993) but not distinctive of any denomination of Christianity.

Acts of worship may contain certain elements drawn from a number of different faiths but maintain the broad balance of Christianity. It contributes to the spiritual, moral, cultural life of our school and the development of all of our children.

Linked policies:

Religious Education Policy

Inclusion Policy

Safeguarding Policy and Prevent Strategy

Equality and Disability Policy

Complaints Policy

Aims:

- To provide children with an opportunity to experience worship;
- To enhance the unity, belonging and sharing whilst reflecting on values and concerns of the school community and the community it serves;
- To affirm and celebrate the vision, values and ethos of the school;
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response and to explore their own beliefs ;
- To enable children to gain insights into ways in which people express themselves within their faith commitments and be sensitive and respectful to those different ways of responding;
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;

Objectives:

To develop through collective worship:

- a sense of awe, wonder and mystery;
- an awareness that life involves choices of belief / attitude / behaviour / relationships;
- an understanding that there are issues with meaning, purpose and value in life;
- Interdependence with the natural world;
- Self-worth and the value of others;
- Enhance school and wider community spirit;

Characters of collective worship:

Staff and children are expected to be present at the daily act of collective worship but our school is committed to an inclusive approach in which all can contribute and from which all can gain and will respect the integrity and individual faith of each person present. As such our collective worship is not corporate.

1. Welcome into the moment and engage with the theme /question / issues	2. Connect with own and others views, thoughts and opinions
<p>Take action to identify that it is a time to collectively consider/ reflect about an identified value / theme / question, for example; music, regular visual cues to identify the distinctiveness of the moment.</p>	<p>Pre-prepared resource will give something for children and adults to watch / listen and/or consider this will enable children to have a response to the theme / question / issue.</p> <p>This point of discussion/ theme / question or reflection might be a current societal worldwide / national or local issue.</p> <p>This will provide them an opportunity to reflect upon their own or others perspectives. This maybe faith or non-faith based depending on the theme.</p> <p>Children will encouraged to actively engage and connect with the material shared at this point in collective worship.</p>
3. Time for reflection (will include invitation to pray / reflect)	4. Takeaway / Impact
<p>Children will be invited to reflect upon question / theme / issues from their own perspective. Children and adults at this point can be invited to pray, if they so wish, or individually and respectfully reflect upon the question / theme / issue.</p> <p>Time will be given for the child and adult to give their full consideration to the request.</p> <p>The expectation of our school is that all are respectful and respect the moment. If not already indicated a cue will be used to mark the moment.</p>	<p>As the collective worship ends, children will be leaving the moment with a sense of thought / action regarding the theme. They will be moving away into another space / lesson in a respectful way.</p>

Organisation of Collective Worship at our school:

Year	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
R	Year group	Phase in hall	Class	Ks1 celebration	Class
1	Year group	Phase in hall	Class	Ks1 celebration	Class
2	Year group	Phase in hall	Class	Ks1 celebration	Class
3	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks2 celebration
4	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks2 celebration
5	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks2 celebration
6	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks2 celebration

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Year	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
R	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
1	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
2	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
3	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
4	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
5	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration
6	Phase in hall	Class	Year group	Class	Ks Celebration

*All staff attend phase and key stage collective worship. Rotating staff attend Year and class (child need dependent)

Planning:

Our collective worship is planned across the year and organised into key themes which promote children and staff's spiritual, moral, cultural and community development.

These themes include;

- Calendar of multi-faith religious Festivals

- Special days
- Special events in the life of the school
- PSHE / P4C themes for that term
- Societal worldwide events or topical issues

These may include being led by visiting speakers from the community, nationally linked to themes above.

Right of withdrawal from collective worship:

At Banister Primary school, collective worship respects the integrity of all participants irrelevant of their faith background. All can participate without compromising their own faith or belief. However, should parents / staff wish to withdraw from the collective act of worship; they may do so after notifying the Head teacher. Where appropriate, the Head teacher will meet with the parents / staff member to discuss any concerns they may have. A record of all children / staff who withdraw from collective worship is kept and updated by the school.

Monitoring and evaluation:

At Banister Primary School it is the role of the full governing body to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship (and religious Education). The chair of governors concerned liaises with the head teacher before reporting to the governors on religious education and collective worship.