



The Crescent Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



The Law

The Law for collective worship is found in the Education Reform Act 1988. It states that all maintained schools must provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils. It can be at any time of the school day in a class or whole school setting. Collective worship in maintained schools and academies of no religious designation must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, though not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

Collective worship underpins all aspects of school life by:

- allowing a pause for reflection and stillness in the midst of the pressure of the school day
- providing a rhythm to the life of the school by marking and celebrating special occasions and achievements
- facilitating the development of a sense of community, of belonging and sharing
- encouraging children to learn how to be part of large and small gatherings, as well as offering opportunities to perform and respond to a presentation of readings, music, dance, drama or prayer

Parental choice

As a parent you have the right to withdraw your child from some or all of Collective Worship. Children who are withdrawn will be supervised.

What do we mean by worship?

What is worship? The legislation does not specifically define worship. Worship is a universal human activity which can be expressed as a growing ability to celebrate and reflect on things held to be of worth. For many people, worship involves commitment to a belief in God. However, it can have a much broader and inclusive meaning. It can be a 'form of human activity, when we purposely put ourselves in the position of paying particular attention to those things in life which have the greatest meaning for us'.

Collective Worship at The Crescent Primary School

We offer our children the opportunity to explore and share beliefs. We consider the importance of prayer and silent reflection to allow children to consider the relevance of these ideas to their own lives, think about the needs of others and develop a sense of community. It provides the opportunity for us to reflect on our school REACH values and provides time to celebrate achievements of our children. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children is explored through these gatherings. Fundamental British Values are also embedded.

Planning

Our collective worship planning includes celebrating religious traditions from many faiths, including Christmas, Diwali, Eid, Chinese New Year, Hannukkah and Easter. We also recognise the important non-religious celebrations by the wider community, including International Women's Day and Black history week. Collective worship reflects the "broad traditions of Christian belief". If a prayer is said, children will be invited to say "Amen" if they agree.

Delivery is achieved in a variety of ways including the use of broadcasts - artefacts - dance and music - drama and role play - posters - children's work - power points - film clips - readings (biography, story, poetry) and story-telling, with the opportunity to Reflect, Respond and Revere.

- Reflect: Time should be given to reflect on the stimulus. To focus attention, we could light a candle, show a picture or image, play some music, ask for stillness, or read an

evocative poem or piece of prose. The aim is to identify a time which is respected by all present and enables the children and staff to reflect on a particular issue.

• Respond: Worship demands a level of involvement. Opportunities are offered to respond in some way. Responses might be expressed through silent thoughts or more overtly by: – listening to the presenter or a child reading a prayer, a short passage or poem – a child saying a prayer – singing or chanting together – repeating or reciting a response – movement or dance – meditation – silence or stillness.

• Reverence: Another essential dimension of worship is a sense of reverence, awe and wonder. This is seen as the culmination of all the other elements. It is the recognition, affirmation and celebration of the worthiness of certain realities and values, held to be of central importance to our community through collective worships.

Collective Worship on a weekly basis	
Monday	Whole school worship led by a member of SLT
Tuesday	Class based themed worship
Wednesday	KS1 and KS2 Exploring faith and non faith celebrations
Thursday	KS2 Singing worship
Friday	KS Celebration of pupil achievements – time to Reflect, Respond and Revere

[Date: Spring 2022](#)

[Review Spring 2023](#)