

Our mission at Wharton CE is rooted in Proverbs 22 v 6

“Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old they will not depart from it”



Collective Worship Policy

WHARTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy Written by: Natalie Tomlinson

Checked by Governing Body: May 2021

Review Date: September 2023

Contents

Section 1: Aims and Objectives

Section 2: Collective Worship

Section 3: Organisation of Collective Worship

Section 4: Right of Withdrawal

Section 5: Monitoring and Review

1. Aims and Objectives:

1.1 What are the aims and objectives of Collective Worship at Wharton CE Primary School?

The aims and objectives of collective are:

- to provide an opportunity for children to worship;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to teach children how to worship and reflect;

We aim to be an inclusive school and offer equality of opportunity and diversity when needed to all groups of pupils within school.

We value, seek to understand, and identify the potential in everyone. Through collective worship we promote values, which include:

- British democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty
- Respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs (and no faith)
- Unicef Rights of the Child.

We do this alongside an appreciation and celebration of difference and diversity (reflecting all protected characteristics and social class). We promote rights and accept that rights come with responsibility.

1.2 How does Collective Worship look at Wharton CE?

At Wharton CE we ensure that the Rights of the Children are embedded through all learning opportunities, collective worship included. We have a focused worship every week which is linked to the half termly value and the Roots and Fruits worship programme. Themes will also reflect current affairs pertinent to address with the children. Awards will be presented for attendance, demonstrating Christian values and where applicable head teacher awards, the Wharton award and celebrations of achievements of both children and staff, including acknowledging excellence in sports and other extracurricular activities and endeavors like fundraising.

We focus on the following values over a two year cycle alongside the heart smart principles. These are embedded through the life of the school and allow the adults and children to engage with worship and use that knowledge and reflection as an integral part of learning at Wharton CE.

5 Heart Smart Principles	Christian Values
Don't forget to let love in	Forgiveness
Too much selfie isn't healthy	Friendship
Don't hold on to what's wrong	Courage
Fake is a mistake	Respect
No way through isn't true	Thankfulness
	Generosity
	Compassion
	Trust
	Truthfulness
	Service
	Justice
	Perseverance

Wharton Code of Conduct	Christian Promise TRAIN
Welcoming	Theology
Heart smart	Relationships
Aspirational	Attitudes and Aspirations
Respectful	Inspire
Teamwork	Next steps
Ownership	
Never give up	

2. Collective Worship:

2.1 What is Collective Worship?

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to a God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly.

2.2 How do Wharton CE Primary School carry out Collective Worship?

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 collective worship in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

2.3 When do Wharton CE Primary School carry out Collective Worship?

Collective worship forms part of our assemblies. While most acts of collective worship in our school are Christian, our assemblies reflect global, national and local events, the annual calendar, and the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

3. Organisation of Collective Worship:

3.1 How often is Collective Worship carried out at Wharton CE?

We hold a daily act of collective worship. This forms part of each daily assembly, which can be either a whole-school assembly or a class assembly.

3.2 What does Collective Worship look like at Wharton CE Primary School?

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection and thinking. 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, and to participate in prayer and hymns or singing. Before prayers, we ask children to decide whether they wish to 'put their hands together and close their eyes' or 'chose a point of focus'. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, and sometimes candles or other objects, to focus the attention of the children.

3.3 Who delivers Collective Worship at Wharton CE Primary School?

The assemblies are normally conducted by the members of staff or Clergy but pupils are learning to and being encouraged to ~~ord~~ assemble. Sometimes assemblies are led by other visitors.

3.4 Where does our Collective Worship focus come from?

We take the themes of our assemblies from 'Roots and Fruits' a worship scheme to support teaching and learning. This is underpinned by the Christian Values and heart smart principles. We will also celebrate events and special days that occur around the world including, traditions of the Christian faith. We also observe the festivals and mark the events of the ~~Or~~ calendar. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as ~~pa~~ of the school curriculum.

Assemblies have a progressive focus each week and are outlined half termly on a rota. Our collective worship experience can vary throughout the week but includes: singing assembly, theme assembly, class worship, sharing assembly and a key stage celebration assembly. We also take time for each year group to visit church and invite parents to church in v celebration of learning which includes an element of reflection and praise.

Worship led by members of the church is often followed in class with a time of focused reflection to consolidate learning and provide children another opportunity to share their reflections,

3.5 Who can take part in our Collective Worship?

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. Wharton CE Primary School is a successful school, and we shall continue to celebrate the successes of all our children at our assemblies.

3.6 Can members of the school community join in our Collective Worship?

On some weeks, there is a particular assembly that parents and carers are invited to attend. We encourage their attendance, as this promotes community spirit, and shows the school and the homes working together in support of the children's achievements.

Governors' are always welcome to attend our assemblies.

4. Right of Withdrawal

4.1 Can a parent withdraw their child from Collective Worship?

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 and carers 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 What happens if someone withdraws from Collective Worship?

The headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.

5. Implementation

5.1 How is Collective Worship monitored at Wharton CE Primary School?

Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of a named school leader, who is also responsible for religious education. The designated governor for SIAMs and RE liaises with the curriculum leader and the Headteacher before reporting to the governors.

5.2 How often is the Collective Worship policy reviewed?

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years. .