

Appendix 1: Collective Worship Model Policy

This model policy provides a framework for schools to adapt to reflect their own practice, it is important that the blank sections are completed with the correct information for the individual school.

Copies of planning and evaluation documents should be kept alongside the policy document.

A Model Policy for Collective Worship

1. Introduction

_____ School is a _____ school, in/near York, catering for children aged from _____ to _____

This Collective Worship policy has been designed with our school population in mind. It is written in accordance with guidance from York's Standing Advisory Council for RE (SACRE).

2. Policy statement

This Collective Worship policy reflects the law (i.e. the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act) and strengthens the community ethos of the school.

Collective Worship will take place daily and will be planned so as to be appropriate to all pupils of any religion or none, to enable them to be present and take part as appropriate.

The aims of collective worship in _____ School

Describe the aims of collective worship for the school.

All present should feel valued whatever their faith or personal beliefs.

Under no circumstances will pupils be asked to accept beliefs, which are contrary to their family background.

They will reflect the beliefs and backgrounds of individual pupils and encourage a voluntary response from pupils.

Worship will acknowledge and respect the responses of individual pupils and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings, delight at life, wonder, joy, rejoicing, sorrow, etc.

Collective worship will not assume a shared religious commitment. They will encourage pupils to consider their own place in the community and what it means to be a citizen.

The school values the impact of collective worship on the wellbeing of all members of the school community and ensures that collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated (describe processes) by (state who carries out these processes e.g. senior leadership / governors / parents / pupils / worship committee consisting of)

3. The legal requirements: the Education Reform Act 1988

Organisation

Describe when collective worship takes place on each day and the way in which pupils are grouped e.g. whole school / class etc

Style and Character

Describe the style of the worship select from the appropriate example including information specific to the school

Delete as appropriate the statements below

- The school provides a daily act of worship which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- The school has a SACRE determination which allows us to hold a daily act of collective worship which is of an inclusive character drawing inspiration from a range of faiths, beliefs and traditions.
- The school has a part determination which allows one group of pupils, namely _____ to meet on _____ days of the week for faith worship which is led by (describe who leads worship e.g. a member of staff or a visitor*) whilst the remainder of the school meets for collective worship of wholly or mainly a broadly Christian character. The worship on the other days of the week the school meets for collective worship which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- The school has a series of determinations which allow (specify groups of pupils) to meet for worship according to their own faith on _____ days a week which is led by (describe who leads worship e.g. a member of staff or a visitor*) The remaining pupils (describe provision for pupils not provided for by separate faith worship). On the remaining days the school meets for worship which is of an inclusive character i.e. drawing inspiration from a range of faiths, beliefs and traditions.

* identify the organisation that the visitor comes from / their credentials for leading faith worship in school. Leaders of faith worship should be practising members of the faith.

Interpreting the law for our school

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship on grounds of conscience should they wish to do so, but we believe that Collective Worship is inclusive and beneficial for all pupils. Parents are asked to contact the Head Teacher to discuss any concerns.

Arrangements for those children withdrawn from Collective Worship

It is hoped that no child will have to be withdrawn from Collective Worship, but where this is the case the following arrangements will be made. describe what provision will be made for pupils who are withdrawn e.g. what they will be doing, where and with whom.

4. The content of Collective Worship

Collective Worship may include the following:

Describe how collective worship will make an impact on pupil's spiritual, moral social and cultural development. Give examples of the materials used and what may take place in collective worship.

The content of Collective Worship will be designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils: to provide opportunities for reflection: to celebrate the good, praise achievements and promote recognition of each pupil's own worth and potential.

5. Conclusion

Collective Worship is an opportunity to ..describe the contribution of collective worship to the ethos and life of the school and wider community.

Policy written by _____

Date _____

Approved _____

To be reviewed _____

(Delete all instructions in red on completion)