

Milton Parochial Primary School
A member of the Peterborough Diocese Education Trust

Collective Worship Policy

INTRODUCTION

At Milton Parochial Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is central to the life of the school. Through collective worship the school aims to offer the opportunity to develop personal spiritual awareness through participation within a variety of contexts. Through a well planned and balanced programme, of a broadly Christian character, we seek to foster a sense of "oneness" which reflects the schools' ethos and Christian values.

We aim to develop quality acts of worship in accordance with the principles and practice of the Church of England as laid down in our Trust deed, the 1988 Education Reform Act, Northamptonshire County Council Guidance (2007) and the Peterborough Diocesan Expectations.

We recognise the legal right of parents to withdraw their children from any acts of worship. As a condition of their appointment to a voluntary controlled staff are encouraged to attend and contribute to acts of collective worship, but their rights to non-participation are respected.

The character of our acts of worship will be broadly Christian. The traditions of Christian belief, particularly those of the Church of England will be reflected in the content of our worship. We aim to raise an awareness of and develop understanding of the values listed below. Our five core values of Honesty, Responsibility, Respect, Kindness and Perseverance are underpinned by the core Christian values of Love and Forgiveness.

Honesty Respect Peace Patience Selflessness Faith Compassion Love Hope	Self-knowledge Responsibility Perseverance Trust Forgiveness Conviction Humility Generosity Kindness	Mercy Consideration Integrity Tolerance Self-reliance Co-operation Loyalty Self-control
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We believe that worship plays an essential part in the life of our school and acknowledge its contribution to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of our pupils. Wherever possible we explore and extend links with other curriculum areas.

AIMS

Through acts of worship, it is our intention to:

- strengthen the community spirit of our school;
- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and emotional development of our pupils;
- share emotions such as love, joy, friendship and fear and promote tolerance, understanding forgiveness and reverence;
- give time to celebrate and give thanks for the beauty of life and living;
- allow time to reflect on success and failure and encourage determination to do one's best;
- create an atmosphere congenial to silent reflection, inner response and active participation;
- make effective use of the Prayer and Reflection space and designated areas in classrooms
- give children practical experiences of prayer;
- promote the understanding of the nature of God as revealed in the person of Jesus Christ;
- introduce the children to the traditions of Anglican worship in the broadest sense;
- illustrate the Christian belief that God is involved and cares.

We see worship as a shared experience which sets the individual and the community in the context of the spiritual and gives expression to the living relationship that exists between God and those who worship.

In order to develop and maintain our school ethos, we believe that it is important for our acts of collective worship to contain elements from the following list:

- a recognition and response to a spiritual dimension of human experience.
- a celebration of love between God and believers.
- a response to things of worth.
- expressions of praise, gratitude, love and compassion.
- expressions of awe, wonder and mystery.
- an invitation to participate or observe.
- the use of music and hymns, words and scriptures, ritual, stillness and reflection.

ORGANISATION AND PLANNING FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

We endeavour to provide daily acts of quality Christian worship that are interesting, thought provoking, stimulating and relevant. In order to achieve this, worship will draw from a variety of approaches and vary in content. Our worship employs a thematic approach and the theme changes half termly/termly. The themes aim to allow for a variety of content which reflects the historic, contemporary, multi-cultural, real and imaginary dimensions of culture. The themes are chosen to develop those skills

attitudes and concepts that will enable the children to appreciate life in the wider world.

The collective worship for the year will reflect the church year by celebrating the main seasons of the church year and commemorations.

Act of worship will include a range of elements essential to quality worship including, simple liturgy, stories, readings, drama, music, prayer, reflection and silence. Acts of worship will encourage involvement and response from pupils and staff.

We are well supported by a range of visiting speakers to support our programme. These may be drawn from the local or wider community.

Roles & Responsibilities

The Governing Body is responsible, in consultation with the Head Teacher for monitoring the effectiveness of Collective acts of worship.

The Head Teacher organises the themes and timetabling of the worship programme in consultation with the RE subject leader, visiting speakers, members of the local churches and staff. The Foundation Governors monitor and evaluate the effects of Collective Worship and regularly update the relevant sections of the Diocesan Self Evaluation Document at sub-committee meetings.

Date reviewed and re-adopted by FGB:

1st July 2015