



Rushton CE (VC) Primary School

Happy Learning Together

Worship Policy

General principle.

Collective worship at Rushton C.E.(C) Primary School plays an important part in the life of our school. It offers opportunities to experience Christian Worship and it reflects the values upon which the education is based. It aims to nurture self-esteem, tolerance, compassion, empathy and understanding and affirms every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, sex, ability, background or religion.

Purpose.

The purpose of this policy is;

- a) to clarify thinking on worship within the school.
- b) to promote a consistent approach

Legal Requirements.

The legal requirement for Anglican schools is for worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England, and so our daily Act of Worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school.

We recognise the right of withdrawal from worship for pupils (at the request of parents) and for staff, but currently enjoy the full support of the whole community.

We note DFE legislation that worship needs to be appropriate to the age, aptitude and family backgrounds of the pupils.

Aims of Collective Worship.

- to promote the spiritual development and response of pupils.
- to foster reflection, meditation, prayer and silence.
- to create an atmosphere in which conversation about God is normal and natural.
- to foster empathy and imagination, forgiveness and understanding.
- to explore and enjoy praise, prayer, and the rituals of Christianity.

- to affirm the value of the Christianity and to recognise the Christian status of Jesus.
- to enable pupils to reflect on the experiences of Christians.
- to foster and value a search for a faith by which to live.
- to learn about and reflect upon Christian teaching, festivals and Biblical material.
- to worship together taking into account the possibility of change within the nature of our small school.
- to provide an appropriate setting for worship, using appropriate resources.

Aims for Worship.

- to recognise the beliefs and cultures of others.
- to develop a sense of community and shared values.
- to consider the needs of others and to foster charitable works
- to be challenging and inspiring.
- to foster a thought provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response.

Management of Collective Worship.

The Foundation Governors have responsibility to ensure the Trust Deed of the school is honoured. Parents will be kept informed through the revised School Prospectus.

Resources for worship and RE are available in the school and more are available through the group of RE teachers from the Leek Education Partnership, and at the Diocesan Support Resources Centre.

Monitoring the quality of collective worship is an on-going process but in a small school this takes place informally.

The Worship Co-ordinator is the Headteacher.

Plan for Developments in Collective Worship.

Worship themes are planned on a termly basis by all staff involved. There is an alter that forms a focal point of worship. This is present at all times except during PE lessons. Christian symbols and those of other faiths around the school will continue to be changed according to work covered in RE, so that they are a source of interest and comment.

Current Practice.

The pattern for worship each week is as follows:-

	Time	Leader
Monday	10.25a.m. to 10.45a.m.	Teacher lead whole school worship
Tuesday	8.35a.m. to 8.55a.m.	Teacher lead worship and hymn practice
Wednesday	10.25a.m. to 10.45a.m.	Teacher lead whole school worship
Thursday	10.25 to 10.45a.m. 2.50 pm to 3.00pm	Teacher lead class worship Celebration assembly
Friday	10.25a.m. to 10.45a.m.	Teacher lead whole school worship

Teaching staff share the leading of assemblies each week.

Visitors are invited to lead our worship on an informal basis contributing to the theme as the need arises if possible.

The incumbent has an open invitation to lead our Act of Worship, as does the Methodist Minister.

Church School Links.

School has enjoyed positive links with the Parish Church and celebrated Harvest and Christmas with parents, friends and the Church community. The Church is used as a resource for the school's RE programme. Pupils are invited to church services on an individual family basis.

Schools Community Links

The children perform their Country Dancing regularly at the Methodist Chapel's annual fête.

The school family regularly supports several charities during the year by raising money for their causes. Children attend the Methodist Christingle and Messy Church.

Worship is always for the whole school so that we may affirm the family nature of this small school. The whole school meets for daily worship, which promotes the school's family ethos.

Should an occasion arise when it is important spiritually to focus upon it e.g. an important family event, this would take precedence over any pre-planned activity.

Monitoring. This policy and the guidelines will be reviewed when necessary.

ADOPTED BY GOVERNORS ON; (date)

Signed _____

Name _____

ADOPTED BY STAFF (date)

Signed _____

Name _____

REVIEW (date)