Ladygrove Primary School and Nursery

Collective Worship Policy

Due for review
June 2028

(Unless there is a National change in policy for schools)

PRINCIPLES

POLICY STATEMENT

At Ladygrove Primary School and Nursery, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a time where we come together to celebrate and reflect on school life.
The worship of the school is based broadly on Christian values. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, and other visitors are valued highly. We believe that Collective Worship has the most impact on the children in our school when:

- it respects the autonomy of all staff and pupils.
- it is presented in a sensitive and appropriate manner.
- it takes into the account pupils that are not committed or practicing believers.
- it avoids specific religious activities if is has no meaning or significance in school.
- it engenders a sense of occasion.
- the potential for it to be the best opportunity for the development of spirituality is explored.
- it provides opportunity for reflection on the great questions and mysteries of existence, as well as the equally significant but less dramatic, quieter moments in life.
- it is educational, interesting, enjoyable and consistent with good practices found elsewhere in school.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

We are required by law to:

- provide a daily act of Collective Worship for all pupils - Education reform act 1988 6 (1).
- ensure that the majority of acts of worship taken over a term will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. ERA 1988 7 (1) and Education act 1993 138 (3).
- ensure that the broad traditions of Christian belief reflected in the act of worship should be appropriate to the family backgrounds of the pupils and aptitudes. ERA 7 (4) (C) and (5).
- provide an act of worship in which pupils 'take part'. ERA 6 (1).
- ensure that pupils and teachers can opt out of attending, on grounds of conscience.

ORGANISATION

Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday: Values assembly

Tuesday: In class – Floor Books PSHE

Wednesday: Singing Assembly

Thursday: In class – Floor Books PSHE

Friday: Celebration Assembly

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship.

The assembly/worship usually lasts approximately 15 minutes but this could be longer if for example we have a guest speaker.

The mood of the assembly and the sense of occasion is sometimes created by:

- insisting upon smartness and respectful behaviour in classrooms.
- the music being played on entry.
- lighting a candle at the end may occur.
- the body language of the staff.
- discussing and promoting the need for a peaceful time of the day.

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection. At Ladygrove all prayers are not presented as if all pupils are active and committed members of the Christian community. We try to start prayers in a manner that invites children to join in rather than insist upon it. At times, children are encouraged to be silent and peaceful and to reflect upon the issue explored in the assembly.

OTHER FAITHS

Although our worship reflects broadly Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting all faiths and cultures, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. This is one of our fundamental British Values.

RECORD KEEPING< EVALUATION AND MONITORING

An assembly file is kept electronically, recording details of each act of worship, themes covered and staff rota. Emails to staff reminding them of festivals/celebrations, communication with religious leaders/connections and other documents are located in the SMSC and RE subject file.

VISITS AND VISITORS

As part of the curriculum, Ladygrove School welcomes visitors to the school to enable them to share their experiences and knowledge on a variety of themes, beliefs and cultures.
The whole school contributes towards annual Harvest and Christmas assemblies when parents / carers are invited to attend.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN R.E

Here at Ladygrove, we recognise the importance of promoting mental health and wellbeing throughout our school community, school vision and within our curriculum. Exploring issues within and across faiths can cause anxiety and highlight similarities/differences. Through our R.E curriculum, we celebrate these differences as a way of learning and moving forward. R.E is a creative subject and we want children to be intrinsically motivated to learn this subject and achieve that great feeling once they have overcome challenges. We use our learning animal values with a focus on 'resilience'.

INCLUSION

We aim to promote opportunity and equality for every child and ALL children have equal access to collective worship. We want to protect our children and families from any form of discrimination linked with the Protected characteristics.
https://www.gov.uk/discrimination-your-rights

This document will be reviewed every 2 years or sooner if necessary

Policy – document status:			
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