

KINGSHILL CHURCH SCHOOL



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Our Vision:

In our school we enjoy and celebrate inspiring, inclusive and life-long **learning**. We are an open, encouraging **community** sharing Christian values especially love and respect. We value **friendship** built on honesty, trust and acceptance in a caring environment.

Collective Worship Policy

Philosophy

Kingshill Church School is a Diocesan Academy. Collective Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a school community. It is attended by pupils, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

Church schools must fulfil legal requirements for Collective Worship (Education Act 1996):-

- The legal requirement for Church schools ensures that every child in the school is entitled to an opportunity for daily worship. "The arrangements for the required collective worship may, in respect of each school day, provide for a single act of worship for all pupils or or separate acts of worship for pupils in different age groups or in different school groups."

Defining Collective Worship

Collective worship is concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power. School worship is different in character to worship amongst groups with beliefs in common, hence the use of the word "*collective*" rather than "*corporate*". Ideally, the act of worship should encompass all aspects of school life and all areas of the curriculum so that all who take part may feel involved. It both reflects and nurtures the ethos of the school. In particular it develops a feeling of belonging to a community which is essential for personal development and physical growth.

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

- To fulfil their legal and statutory responsibilities to uphold the Christian foundation of the school.
- To ensure all staff are made clear of their responsibility to uphold the Christian ethos and foundation of the school upon appointment.

Responsibilities of the school

- To clearly plan acts of collective worship

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- To make parents aware that the school is a Church school and as such Collective Worship will be based upon the foundations and principles of the Church of England.

Responsibilities of the pupils

- To actively engage in all collective worship at Kingshill Church School

Aims of Collective Worship

It is our aim at Kingshill Church School that worship should: -

- offer opportunities to worship God
- underpin the Christian values and ethos of the school
- reflect the school's Church of England foundation in a tangible way
- reflect the Vision Statement of the school
- reflect some of the practices and traditions of the local church
- provide an opportunity for thought, prayer, reflection and celebration in a caring atmosphere
- be inclusive and an occasion where each individual's integrity is respected
- be appropriate to the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of the pupils
- offer opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- help children explore and develop their own spirituality
- enable children to explore and evaluate their own beliefs
- help children think about a wide variety of ideas and dimensions of life, including the spiritual, ritual, wonderful, joyful, tragic, sorrowful, solemn and humorous
- show children that we are members of a wider community, both local and global;
- encourage a care and concern for others in society and the natural world;
- be an opportunity for pupils to reflect on human existence
- show appreciation for the God given gifts and talents of the school community
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community
- offer opportunities to share worship with parents, governors and members of the local community
- celebrate special occasions in the Church's year and the life of the community
- be clearly planned
- be regularly monitored and evaluated

The approach to Collective Worship

In acts of worship we should ensure that:

- the school's Church Foundation is reflected by the central position of a cross, a candle and a Bible
- the purpose of the act of worship is clear to all present.
- themes are developed effectively on a half-termly, weekly or daily basis.
- artefacts, visual aids or other foci of interest are used where appropriate.
- opportunities are given for prayer, reflection and quiet.
- the occasion engenders an atmosphere conducive to worship.
- there is a balance between music, speech and silence.
- children are actively involved as much as possible.
- subject matter is appropriate to the age and experience of children.
- visitors, governors and parents are welcome to attend on a variety of occasions.
- links with Christ Church are maintained and strengthened.

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- children and adults take away something to think about and take into their daily life within school and the community.

The Timing of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is given a special period in the school day. However, it should be remembered that:

- Collective Worship can take place at any time and in any groupings
- Worship can take place in a variety of settings; for example - In the school hall, in a class, outside, in the local church or church hall.

Our timetable for Collective Worship:

Daily activity Collective Worship opportunity

Monday - Whole school assembly taken by the Headteacher. Staff are asked to attend as this sets up the week for the whole school. Story of religious/values based substance, prayer and quiet reflection time.

Tuesday - Whole School 'Singing' to encourage enjoyment of singing and learning of new worship songs. A prayer that reflects upon the songs. This is led by the Deputy Headteacher and there is a staff rota for this assembly.

Wednesday - 'Free' Collective Worship/Open the Book. This may be led by 'Open the Book' a visitor, a class assembly, a children's themed assembly etc and will include a story, prayer and worship song. This may be a 'split' session for FS/KS1 and KS2.

Thursday - An assembly for the whole school community led by the vicar or Baptist minister or similar visitor to school. Story of religious substance, worship song, prayer and quiet reflection time.

Friday - Celebration Assembly. Whole school assembly to reflect on the value of the week celebrate and reward the outstanding achievements of the children during that week. It includes certificates, outside school achievements and birthday. It includes a prayer that reflects this occasion.

The Planning of Collective Worship

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation. Each week/month/term there is a theme for Collective worship this is usually based on the Church Year or on 'Christian Values for Schools'. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that we may feel that we need to respond to local or national events. All those leading collective worship are asked to plan their act of worship in as much detail as they would any other learning activity. A worship-planning group meets once a term led by the Headteacher. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. One of the Governors has a role monitoring Collective worship at the school. We seek to encourage pupils to voice their views on collective worship and to be a part of the evaluation process.

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Evaluation of Collective Worship

Following the planning of worship; the evaluation and recording, needs to be an integral part of the process.

Worship can be evaluated by those leading the worship, other staff, the pupils for whom the worship is intended or members of the governing body. Feedback from any of these groups will help to improve the quality of worship offered to the pupils.

Monitoring of Collective Worship

The monitoring of the planning and provision of worship is carried out on a regular basis. The governors have a key role in this process to ensure that the legal requirements are met and that the worship offered to the pupils is of the highest quality.