



Sand Hutton and Warthill Federated Church of England (VC) Primary Schools

Collective Worship Policy – September 2022

MISSION STATEMENT

The schools aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief. It seeks to develop the full potential of all children in a caring environment which values all its members.

A school family of children, staff, parents, governors and friends of the school who all share a commitment to putting universal Christian values at the centre of our daily lives, in all our actions, in all that we think, say or do.

Love abounds. Our community embraces opportunities to support one another in being 'The Best We Can Be'. Biblical teaching underpins all relationships providing networks which we all use, helping to understand the principle 'practice makes better.' This vision drives the way in which we live, marrying distinctiveness and effectiveness together.

To learn and to grow and 'to be the best we can be'

CORINTHIANS

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Rationale

At Sand Hutton and Warthill CE (VC) Primary Schools we believe Collective Worship is a time to come together, as a community, to share common values and principles and to develop a sense of awe and wonder concerning our place within the world.

We promote a Christian Ethos in our school, where the values of our Christian faith of mutual respect, care and love are embedded in every area of our school life. We aim to contribute to the faith of every individual in the school. We plan opportunities for reflection and encourage children's sense of awe and wonder throughout the curriculum.

Aims

Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, emotional and intellectual growth as well as moral, social and cultural development.

Pupils are given the opportunity to:

- worship God
- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a sense of community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- consider the importance of reflection in prayer, meditation and silence
- respond to the worship offered

Organisation

It is our intention that Collective Worship at our schools will fulfil the legal requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act, pertaining to Voluntary Controlled Schools. The Governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that these requirements are met.

Themes for Collective Worship are planned by the Assistant Headteacher/RE subject lead with input from other staff and pupils; they follow the Christian calendar as well as areas of study in RE and P.S.H.E.

When it is not possible to hold Collective Worship sessions as a whole school in person, classes join a “virtual” collective worship where the whole Federation joins together.

Children are encouraged to reflect using weekly “reflection diaries” weekly.

Guidelines

Collective Worship is held daily. The sessions are broadly Christian; the music, stories and themes will allow all the children to benefit from them.

The format of Collective Worship allows for a variety of agreed themes and stories, styles and presentations. It will be led by members of staff, the church, children and members of the wider community.

Sharing Assemblies reinforce the schools aims and values, which are based on the teachings of Jesus, and celebrate the children’s good work and achievements through our Corinthians Ambassador Awards.

Services are held within the local churches to celebrate Harvest, Christmas and Easter. When these services are not possible, a video of the celebration is produced by the children and is shared with all families via Teams.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship, but we hope that they will understand that these sessions play an important part in the ethos of the school and so will only do so after consultation with the Head teacher and/or the Governing Body.

Evaluation

Evaluation strategies currently used by staff for assessing the outcomes of collective worship are:

- observation of the children’s attentiveness and level of interest shown during the sessions.
- feedback from pupils and parents.
- observation of the children’s general behaviour in and around school.
- annual questionnaires about Collective Worship.

Resources

The timetable for Collective Worship is available on Sharepoint for all staff. Anyone who wishes to see what our themes are is able to ask for a copy of this timetable.

Visitors

Both schools welcome the vicars and curates of the separate parishes to conduct **Collective Worship** on a regular basis. This includes:

Revd. Chris Wingfield

Revd. Mark Poole

Rachael Harrison (Children and Youth worker – Harton Benefice)

Lisa Horton (Children and Youth Worker – Dunnington)

YoYo – (York Schools and Youth Trust)