



## DOGSTHORPE INFANT SCHOOL

# Collective Worship Policy




**Ratified by: Standards Committee**

**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Minute: 9**

**Review Date: Every 3 years**

Welcome to our school family where children are...

-  inspired to dream and develop the building blocks to be independent, confident and inquisitive life-long learners.
-  nurtured, valued and individual differences are respected in an exciting, learning community where everyone belongs.
-  little stars who deserve to shine.

### **Policy Overview.**

<b>What is the policy for?</b>	This policy is for all members of the Dogsthorpe Infant School community so that there is common understanding how Collective Worship is led at our school.
<b>Who has devised and contributed to this policy?</b>	This policy has been developed by the RE Subject Leader and Headteacher.
<b>How will this policy be communicated?</b>	This policy is available in the school office and on the school's website.
<b>How will this policy be monitored?</b>	The policy will be monitored by the SLT and the LGB.
<b>Which other policies are linked to this policy?</b>	Curriculum Policy  This policy meets the requirements of the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage Setting (2014)

### **The Legal Requirements**

At Dogsthorpe Infant School we aim to adhere to 'DfE Guidance on collective worship in schools which states that:-

*Academies without a religious designation must provide collective worship that is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. A school can reflect the religious backgrounds represented in its community, as long as the majority of provision is broadly Christian.*

With this in mind, we normally base our Collective Worship on Christian teachings and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct these times in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

We acknowledge that:

- Parents can withdraw their children from Collective Worship with written permission. Discussions will take place between the school and parent before this occurs.
- Staff are under no obligation to participate in Collective Worship.

### **Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to think and reflect through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

### **Aims**

Collective Worship contributes to the ethos of Dogsthorpe Infant School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore the world in which we live
- develop a sense of belonging
- celebrate the diversity of our school family

We also intend that our Collective Worship contributes to the development of the 'whole child' by providing opportunities to:

- consider Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Issues (SMSC);
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate, reflect and respond
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

### **The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Dogsthorpe Infants, Collective Worship will sometimes feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of children by reflecting on the work done in classes.

At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

### **The Organisation and Delivery of Collective Worship**

- We hold a daily act of Collective Worship in our school called 'SHINE TIME'. This takes the form of whole-school, year group or class collective worship.
- We conduct Shine Time in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that this is a time for calm reflection.
- We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer/reflection and songs.
- Shine Times are led by members of staff and we also welcome local clergy and other representatives of local religious groups to lead them. Throughout the year, we may have other guest speakers.
- Shine Time themes are planned half-termly and are often based around the time of year, current religious and world events/themes. Shine Times will link to our school values and British Values.
- A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the children.
- The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.
- Parents and governors are invited to attend special Shine Times such as 'Shooting Stars Shine Time' every half-term.

### **Monitoring and Evaluating**

It is the responsibility of the Headteacher and Governors to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship.

The Religious Education Subject Leader is responsible for planning Collective Worship and ensuring that staff and visitors understand what is required of them.