



Rockland St Mary and Surlingham Collective Worship Policy

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Date	February 2017
Executive summary	This policy is a new policy. No changes were made in January 2020
Review Body	Teaching staff
Endorsed by	
Review frequency & next review due	Three yearly – January 2023
Comments	This policy is available on our school website and is available on request from the school office.

Collective Worship Policy

This policy has been developed to fulfil national statutory requirements, to raise awareness and understanding among pupils of the spiritual, moral and cultural aspects of modern British Life. Three Rivers Federation of Rockland St Mary and Surlingham Primary believes that Collective Worship should reflect the important values in life.

The legal Requirements for Collective Worship

The Education Act 1996 requires:

- All pupils must take part in an act of collective worship every day at any time during that day.
- Collective Worship may be as a whole school or in different age groups e.g. Key Stage or Classes
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the legal requirements for Collective Worship are met.
- Collective Worship must take part on the school premises
- Collective Worship shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character
- Each member of staff, including the Headteacher, has the legal right to withdraw from the Act of Collective Worship.
- It remains the Headteacher's responsibility to lead Collective Worship
- All parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, wholly or partially.

Aim of Collective Worship

The Law requires all schools to provide a daily act of Collective Worship. At Three Rivers Federation we acknowledge that our school community is not a "worshipping community" in the same sense as a local church, but we aim to give children the opportunity to understand and experience some of the features of worship in Christian Community. The Law also requires us to provide pupils with an opportunity to worship God as part of Collective Worship. We do this through either spoken prayers or time for quiet reflection. Children are given the opportunity to participate in this in the way that they choose, whilst respecting the rights of others to choose their own way to respond.

Approach of Collective Worship

We believe that a core set of values is important to life as a Christian and for other Faiths. As a result, the school uses the "Values for Life" programme, alongside other relevant materials. Each half term the school focuses on two different values and they are then explored in depth. They are explored through many of the following methods:

- Bible stories
- Reading and stories from main world religions
- Sharing important national and international news, events etc.
- Sharing achievement and celebrating success
- Singing
- Poetry
- Drama, Art, Artefacts
- Video Clips
- Prayers
- Question and Answer sessions
- Reflection

Organisation of Collective Worship

A member of staff is responsible for overseeing the planning of the themes for Collective Worship. All teaching staff are involved in the leading of Collective Worship according to the current rota.

Other agencies may occasionally lead the Collective Worship. Occasionally Acts of Worship are held in the churches within the locality of the schools.

Withdrawal

Parents may ask for their child to be totally or partially withdrawn from Collective Worship in accordance with the Education Act. They are advised of this right in the school brochure and asked to contact the Headteacher to make arrangements. No reasons should be given, but discussion with school is recommended. Staff also have the right of withdrawal, upon discussion with the Headteacher.

Monitoring

The effectiveness of this policy is monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and by the Governing Body.