



**Madley Brook CP School**

### **Collective Worship Policy**

The aim of the collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Respond to the worship offered.

#### **Statutory Duty of School**

We aim to provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils of statutory school age except those in the Early Years Foundation Stage who are not bound by the legal requirement. This is usually provided within a daily assembly.

The head teacher is responsible (under the Education Act 1996) for arranging the daily collective worship for all pupils of statutory school age. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils. However, if it is inappropriate for some or all of the pupils to take part in Christian collective worship, the head teacher may apply to the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) for a determination to have this requirement lifted.

At Madley Brook Primary School we hold a daily act of Collective Worship in compliance with the statutory guidance of the DfE.

This is a valued and important part of the school day when we come together either as a Key Stage group or whole school. At this time our values and ethos are shared as we discuss matters of importance, encouraging development of qualities in our children such as empathy, self reliance, positive self image and respect for others. Our Acts of Worship are based on a framework of such values, which permeate thorough our whole school, and everything we do.

Some pupils may be withdrawn from Collective Worship. Guidance from the DfE (via The Key for School Leaders May 2015) states that: *'this is a matter for the school to decide, but that a pupil or group of pupils could be removed from collective worship to attend additional tuition sessions if the school wishes to do so.'*

#### **Implementation**

Collective worship, whether in assembly or class or Key Stage time will:

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils;
- Include a variety of elements at different times;
- Involve the pupils.

#### **Acts of Collective Worship may take the form of:**

- Readings from the Bible
- Stories
- Singing

- Video clips
- Prayer
- Quiet reflection
- Drama
- Art
- Artefacts

### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The school will review this policy every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

### **The right of parents to withdraw their child**

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education(RE) and collective worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or collective worship at the school the school must comply unless the request is withdrawn. Whilst the school remains responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn from RE or collective worship, and unless the child is lawfully receiving RE, or taking part in collective worship elsewhere, we will not be responsible for providing additional tuition for withdrawn children.

Parents do not need to explain their reasons for seeking withdrawal. Under DfE recommendations the Governing Body requests that the headteacher seeks clarification from parents:

- The religions issues about which the parent would object their child being taught;
- The practical implications of being withdrawn;
- The circumstances in which it would be reasonable to accommodate parents' wishes;
- If a parent will require any advanced notice of such issue in the future and if so, how much.