



pathfield
SCHOOL

Inspiring interaction

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Adopted by Governors	Rosemary Mitchell
Date	19.04.18
Review Date (Every other year)	Spring 2020
Policy/Procedure checked by/date	Sharon Ernest Rosemary Mitchell Geoff Phillips February 2018

Pathfield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy will support, promote and be applied with due regard to the requirements of the



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Introduction

We believe that collective worship forms an essential part of the life of Pathfield School.

It provides the opportunity to support all aspects of the school life and curriculum, and is a chance to **celebrate effort, perseverance, kindness, success and achievement** in our students. Collective worship also allows **space for stillness and reflection** in what can be a very busy and active day for our children.

Aims

The central aims of collective worship at Pathfield are to:

- provide our children with regular opportunities for **stillness and reflection**
- promote children's **spiritual, moral, social and cultural** development
- **celebrate** the values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the gifts and talents of our children.
- help children develop understanding both of the **nature and language of worship**
- help children develop respect and sensitivity to the **beliefs and values of others**
- support the broader curriculum through the use of **art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.**

The Legal Position

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils in **MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS**. However this legislation **DOES NOT APPLY TO SPECIAL SCHOOLS**

At Pathfield School we have a **range of themes and topics** through which collective worship takes place. Key themes support the values celebrated in our curriculum, which include **mutual respect, cultural diversity and social inclusion**. We believe these themes are clearly Christian in nature but are universal in their application.

We recognise that in our school we have children from a **variety of faith backgrounds** and that many children have **no religious background** at all. Great care is taken in our collective worship to ensure that **all children feel valued and special** and that their **integrity** as human beings is consistently upheld.

Parents do have, the **right of withdrawal** from Collective Worship. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly **encouraged to contact the Headteacher**.

Context of Collective worship

In order to promote children's learning and to reflect the **differing needs** of our children, our acts of **worship vary in size and nature**. Our assembly pattern is set out to ensure a breadth of learning and different approaches are used to enable all learners to access information independently or with adult support. Approaches to collective worship are experienced as below

- **Whole school** celebrations and festivals
- **Key Stage** assemblies
- **Class based** with a theme

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and regularly contribute to acts of worship.

We hope to create a stimulating and thoughtful time for our children by providing a range of **multi sensory experiences**. These include music, singing, dance and stories, as well as encouraging children to contribute to the collective worship by sharing their own work and ideas.

Conclusion

Collective Worship plays a **very important role** in our school as we seek to develop our children in the **skills of reflection and empathy**, to **encourage and celebrate** their talents and to **promote** their spiritual and moral development.