

ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

POLICY REVIEW

This policy has been reviewed in line with the following: (Reviewer please tick box)

a) Ensuring the policy is up to date and meets mandatory requirements



b) Ensuring the policy is fit for purpose and that practice adheres to the policy.



Reviewed and Updated in May 2023 by Teaching & Learning Subcommittee

Policy will be reviewed again in May 2024

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This school policy reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching and support staff and has the full agreement of the governing body.

"This policy reflects the philosophy of the Equality Policy, the Mission Statement and the School Aims in relation to the whole curriculum".

The school is a no smoking site, including E Cigarettes.

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

- Experience worship
- To reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- To develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared
- values consider spiritual and moral issues
- To respond to the worship offered.

Statutory Duty of School

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). This is usually provided within a daily assembly.

The head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body.

British Values

Rowan Gate Primary School is committed to working closely and in harmony with its community and celebrating the diversity of the UK. We aim to prepare children for life in modern Britain and to ensure that our school ethos, curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning reflect and promote

We recognise that these values are not exclusive to being British and that they have come to be accepted throughout the democratic world as the method of creating an orderly society in which individual members can feel safe, valued and can contribute to for the good of themselves and others. We work alongside our local community and recognise the variety of religious beliefs within it. We take children outside the school to take part in local events and meet different members of the community to appreciate the valuable contributions they make.

Implementation

At our school, daily collective worship will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature depends on the family background, age and ability of the pupils, and is based upon S.E.A.L. (Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning) themes. We welcome difference and diversity and aim to create understanding of how this adds to the richness of our community.

We aim to do more than 'tolerate' those with different faiths and beliefs.

We recognise the extent to which our own traditions and history have developed side by side and the rich cultural heritage that different world religions bring.

We believe that exploring and understanding other people's faiths and beliefs are rewarding experiences and help us understand our own faiths and beliefs better; as is covered through Rowan Gate's The 5 keys- Roots to Growth.

Collective worship, whether in assembly or tutor time, will:

be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils

include a variety of elements at different times

involve the pupils.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

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

Parental Right to Withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of Collective worship and must notify the school if this is desired.

This policy was reviewed by the Teaching & Learning Subcommittee in May 2023 and will be reviewed annually.

APPENDIX – County Guidelines

County guidelines state that all maintained schools must provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents).

This may be provided within daily assembly but the distinction should be made clear.

Collective worship can take place at any time in the school day and the whole school does not need to get together at the same time. Collective worship can be organised into form groups or year groups or whatever is appropriate for the school. It cannot be organised in faith groups unless a determination has been sought and granted by the local SACRE.

Circular 1/94 has been replaced, so far as it relates to religious education, by guidance published on 29 January 2010. However, the guidance on collective worship contained within Circular 1/94 remains current. The updated nonstatutory guidance on RE is available on TeacherNet.

Religious education guidance in English schools: Non-statutory guidance 2010 Circular 1/94

Statutory duty of school

The Head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. 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. It is acceptable for schools to split the collective worship sessions over the school year to be 51 per cent Christian and 49 per cent other faiths or interests.

Most schools should be able to include all pupils in their act of collective worship. There may be exceptional cases, however, where, in view of the family background of some or all pupils, the Head teacher and governing body feel that a broadly Christian act of worship is not suitable. In these circumstances, the Head teacher can apply to the local Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) to have the Christian content requirement lifted. Before doing so, the governing body should consult the parents of pupils at the school.

Implementation

Collective worship, whether in assembly or tutor time, will:

- be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- include a variety of elements at different times
- involve the pupils.

Monitoring, evaluation and review

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

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.

Foundation schools with a religious character and voluntary schools

Collective worship in foundation schools with a religious character and voluntary schools will be in accordance with the school's trust deed. Where provision is not made by a trust deed, the worship should be in accordance with the beliefs of the religion or denomination specified for the school.

Teachers

Teachers cannot be required to lead or attend collective worship except where the law provides otherwise. This would normally only happen in a maintained school with a religious designation.