

Friezland Primary School **Collective Worship Policy**

STATUTORY DUTY OF SCHOOL

By law, all maintained schools must provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents).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, Part II, Chapter V1, sections 70 AND 71 and also schedule 20) for arranging the daily collective worship, after consultation with the governing body.

Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, in that, Christian values, which are also the values shared by other religious faiths, are promoted. (The Education Reform Act (1988) Part 1, chapter 1, Sections 6-7 and DfEE Circular Religious Education and Collective Worship, DFE Circular 1/94, paras 50, 57 and 63.)

In the event of it becoming inappropriate for some or all pupils to take part in a Christian act of 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.

AIMS

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

- affirm the faith background of the believing child, whilst at the same time contributing to the religious education and spiritual development of all children
- 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.
- develop spirituality through shared reflection.

As embodied in our Religious Education Policy, collective worship at Friezland should also aim to promote responsible and respectful attitudes from our Twentieth Kid ethos (traits which are also strong elements of the Christian faith) , enquiring minds, a capacity to reflect on questions of meaning and purpose, and a willingness to empathise with the feelings, thoughts and experiences of others.

IMPLEMENTATION

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

- be acceptable to the whole school 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, along with the R.E. policy, every 3 years, and assess its implementation and effectiveness.

The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

COMMUNITY LINKS

At Friezland School we value our link with the faith community of the local church of Christ Church Friezland. By maintaining and encouraging this link, we believe that our children's overall sense of the purpose of worship is greatly enhanced, regardless of their faith backgrounds or beliefs. Furthermore it fosters a feeling of inclusion for all - a vital ingredient in collective worship. Other members of the community are invited to lead assemblies e.g Peace assembly, Fair Trade and those who follow other religions.

RESOURCES

Our termly themes and main collective worship each week are based on the characteristics of the 'Twentieth Kid' ethos which are also Christian traits and those expected of good citizens. These themes are backed up with the website www.cowo.culham.ac.uk and SPCK (assemblies for autistic children). Besides singing, story telling and times of reflection, staff are encouraged to use either the bank of assembly resources in the head teacher's office, or are welcome to provide their own which fit with the weekly theme. CDs, playing equipment and piano music and OHTs are kept in a central store in the hall. At certain times themes will be followed through school, in line with the current SEAL topic or school Expectations. Staff should make themselves aware of the multi-faith calendar and highlight events in a broad variety of religions. More information can be found at:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/tools/calendar/>

Hymns are often sung during collective worship. Some of these hymns are of a Christian nature, but it is explained to children how the words they are singing could be applied to any god or higher being and that the messages in them help us to lead a good life, whether we hold particular religious views or not.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

All pupils attend assembly (unless withdrawn by their parents). Provision is made for those pupils with mobility difficulties. Pupils with Special Educational Needs are also provided for in the same way that a class teacher differentiates whole class discussion, ensuring that all pupils are able to access the subject which is being discussed. The diversity of belief is celebrated at Friezland and children are encouraged to participate in discussions which re-affirm that diversity, through, for example, AT2 – Learning from Religion. All pupils, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, disability, special needs or any other difference, has the right to be treated fairly and in accordance with the policies of this school.

RECORD KEEPING

An example timetable of the collective worship is enclosed as the model around which we base our timings for assemblies. (Appendix 1)

All teaching staff will participate in some form of collective worship in school, whether it is in the form of whole school, Key Stage or class assemblies. They are encouraged to follow the themes taking place in school or to discuss/celebrate current events in the multi-faith calendar. Any stories etc. used in assembly should be passed to the head teacher for the main record file.

APPENDIX 1**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP TIMETABLE (Regular School weeks)**

DAY	FORM OF WORSHIP	TIME	VENUE	STAFF MEMBER RESPONSIBLE*
MON	WHOLE SCHOOL	9:05 – 9:30am	Hall	Head teacher
TUE	CLASS ASSEMBLY	Class 1,2,4 3:00pm Class 3 9:05am	Individual classroom/hall/lodge or suitable outdoor space	Class teachers
WED	KEY STAGE ASSEMBLY	KS1/YR 1:10PM -1:30 KS2 9:05-9:30	Classroom, hall, outdoor space	Class Teachers
THU	WHOLE SCHOOL	9:05 – 9:30am	Hall	Staff rota
FRI	WHOLE SCHOOL	9:05 – 9:45 am	Hall	Head teacher
<p>* If unavailable for their slot on the rota staff must swap their day with another member of staff ** If the head teacher is unavailable another member of the Senior Leadership Team will be asked to stand in</p>				

Further legal guidance can be found in:

Education Reform Act 1988, Part 1, Chapter 1, Sections 6-7

Education Act 1996, Part V, Chapter III, Sections 385-388

School Standards and Framework Act 1988, Part II, Chapter VI, Sections 70 and 71
and also Schedule 20

Religious Education and Collective Worship, DFE Circular 1/94, paragraphs 50, 57 and 63

APPENDIX 2**EXAMPLE OF TERMLY THEMES (from Autumn 2014)****Autumn 2014 (Ethical Character)**

Week beginning	Theme	Song
2.9.14	TLM lead whole school on Tuesday Optimism	It's a New Day He gave me eyes so I could
8.9.14	Caring	Love is something if you give it away
15.9.14	Friendliness	I will bring to you the best gift I can offer
22.9.14	Rosh Hashana/Honesty	Light up the fire
29.9.14	Fairness	Peace, perfect peace
6.10.14	Eid-ul-Ahda/Respect	He's got the whole world
13.10.13	Yom Kippur/Diligence	Lord of all hopefulness
20.10.14	Diwali/Responsibility	He gave me eyes so I could see
Half term		
3.11.14	Halloween/Loyalty	When I needed a neighbour
10.11.14	Armistice Day/Patience	Lord of all hopefulness
17.11.14	Perseverance	Don't Build your House
24.11.14	Hannukah/Self discipline	When a Knight won his spurs
1.12.14	Christmas	O LittleTown of Bethlehem
8.12.14	Dress Rehearsals	
15.12.14	Saint Lucia	Light a candle in the window