

BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN & DUNKIRK METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Updated January 2018
Review Date: January 2020

Signed.....Chair of Governors



Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Primary School

'Dream, Believe, Achieve Together'

We aspire for all our children to become confident, happy and caring individuals who achieve personal success and develop a love of learning and a life built upon our school values.

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk is a Methodist Primary School and our Christian values are at the heart of everything we do.

- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Trust
- Justice
- Perseverance

These are then underpinned by our learning values.

- Communication
- Independence
- Aspiration
- Engagement

Our whole school ethos is built upon and guided by them. Every school policy is written with this in mind.

Policy for Collective Worship

Introduction:

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Primary School, a Methodist Controlled School, aims to promote a distinctive Christian ethos through Collective Worship. We see the act of Collective Worship as having great educational worth, *providing a daily focus in the life of the school*. Daily Collective Worship is a time when the school can transmit and develop all that it stands for in terms of beliefs, values, moral codes and community ethos. Teachers are usually present for Collective Worship and the themes and content of these are made to be relevant by those leading them. Pupil involvement is important and each staff member leading collective worship will have planned for the session in advance. The planning sheet includes the opening greeting, sharing the peace and school prayer. A second prayer, led by a child or particularly relevant to the subject matter covered, will be read at the end of the session. We encourage the children and staff to participate fully and we have a strong emphasis on singing & celebration; teaching - biblical stories & principles; prayer and reflection.

Aims:

The aim of Collective Worship is to provide the opportunities for pupils to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on the school's Christian values
- Develop a community spirit
- Develop a common ethos and shared values which encompass the whole school community
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Explore the teachings of Jesus and learn stories from the bible
- Pray
- Participate and respond through positive 'life-enhancing' attitudes.

Collective Worship and assemblies are seen as two distinct activities. Although they often take place at the same gathering, the difference between the two is made clear. Assemblies inform pupils and staff of changes to the school day or a celebration of success at tournaments etc.

As a maintained school, we provide a daily collective worship for all pupils - apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents. The worship is Christian in character and includes songs/hymns and prayers that are chosen to be meaningful to the children. Quiet reflection is always encouraged and a 'thinking candle' is offered as an alternative to prayer.

The themes embedded within the Collective Worship reflect the Christian values held by the school: forgiveness, trust, friendship, justice and perseverance.

Withdrawing Children:

All children at Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Primary School attend and participate in daily Collective Worship, but parents are informed within the school booklet that they have the right to withdraw their child. Where this is the case the request must be made to the Head Teacher, who will take appropriate steps for a determination to have this requirement lifted. If this is arranged, the school will provide appropriate supervision for the children or agree with the parents for the child to attend assembly but not take part.

Organisation of Collective Worship:

Every day, children meet together collectively for worship:

Monday - Whole School Collective Worship led by Head teacher

Tuesday - Whole School Collective Worship led by a visitor of teacher (on a rota)

Wednesday - Whole School Collective Worship through song

Thursday - Whole-School Collective Worship led by school chaplain, visitor or a whole class

Friday - Whole-School Collective Worship / celebration assembly

The themes are chosen for each term on a rolling plan and are all based upon Christian values and Methodist teachings. The themes and content are planned by Collective Worship Coordinator, supported by the Methodist Church Minister (Foundation Governor) and ecumenical colleagues. The termly 'timetable' is circulated to all staff.

The following are the Christian values held by the school; these values form a basis for the school rules and promote a positive behaviour and attitude within all members of the school community.

- Forgiveness
- Trust
- Friendship
- Justice
- Perseverance

These five values, in addition to a further 7 values, have been developed into a two year rolling programme for Collective Worship. This includes whole school and any class based Collective Worship that takes place because the hall is in use for other reasons.

Two year programme

Year One

Term 1: Our Methodist Community and the life of John Wesley

Term 2: Methodism- Peace and Justice

Term 3: Hope

Term 4: Forgiveness

Term 5: Perseverance

Term 6: Truth

Year Two

Term 1: Friendship

Term 2: Compassion

Term 3: Thankfulness

Term 4: Trust

Term 5: Respect

Term 6: Joy

The Collective Worship leader ensures that collective worship is programmed to cover all the above values and also includes any other social, moral and emotional themes that are relevant to our children.

To aid the Collective Worship leader we use the 'Values for Life' materials and then supplement these with any other relevant information.

Our school's Collective Worship time is at 10:20am every day.

Summary:

Collective Worship at Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Methodist Primary School is distinctively Christian in nature, responding to the traditions of its Methodist heritage and foundation. It provides opportunities for moral, social, cultural and spiritual development - through activities, songs, stories, thoughts, prayer and reflection. Through Collective Worship the school communicates the key values established within the school community as well as giving children the opportunity to learn, giving them opportunities to apply our key values to their own lives.

Appendix 1 - Collective Worship Planning Sheet

<u>Collective Worship Planning Sheet – 2017/2018</u>	
Date:	Teacher:
Theme:	
Resource:	
Music on entry:	Song:
<p>Opening: <i>'Good morning everyone'</i> Pupils reply <i>'good morning'</i> <i>'Peace be with you'</i> Pupils reply <i>'and also with you'</i> <i>Light the candle</i> <i>Start with a prayer</i> <i>'Dear God.</i> <i>Help us to do all the good that we can.</i> <i>In all the ways that we can.</i> <i>At all the times that we can.</i> <i>To all the people that we can.</i> <i>Amen'</i></p>	
Message, story or activity:	
Pupil involvement:	
<i>(Reading from bible, prayer, actions, questions, view)</i>	
Prayer:	
<p>Extinguish the candle after the prayer <i>Choose your own, the Lord's prayer, or a suggestion from resource)</i></p>	
Music on exit:	
Self-Review:	
<i>(what went well, pupil response, linked to values)</i>	