BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN & DUNKIRK METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Updated January 2020

Review Date: January 2022

Ratified:20/1/20

Signed……………………………………………..Chair of Governors

**Doing all the good that we can**

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 Methodist 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 and implemented in way that reflects our vision of doing all the good that we can and developing children as life long learners.**

***Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it’***

*Proverbs 22:6*

**Policy for Collective Worship**

Introduction:

Boughton-under-Blean & Dunkirk Primary School, a Methodist Controlled School, aims to promote a distinctive Christian ethos partly through a daily act of Collective Worship. The act of Collective Worship has a great worth in developing the children spiritually, increasing their knowledge and understanding of The Bible and also providing children with an opportunity to begin to feel for themselves what it means to worship. Daily Collective Worship is a time when as a school we can reaffirm, strengthen and practise the key Christian values that underpin all that we do. The act of worship is collective and shared in its nature with members of staff and children present and worshipping together. In worshipping together a sense of community is developed within school and also a sense of being part of a wider community.

Aims:

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

* Reaffirm, strengthen and practise key Christian values and celebrate each individual member of the school community
* Provide an opportunity for children and staff to worship God
* Develop a sense of community as a school and also an awareness of belonging to a wider community enhanced by the work of local ministers
* Develop and share a common ethos and set of shared values which encompass the whole school community
* Consider spiritual and moral issues considering wats to bring about change for the future
* Explore the teachings of Jesus and learn stories from The Bible
* Take part in silent reflection and pray
* Participate and respond through positive ‘life-enhancing’ attitudes being thankful for the joy of all that is being alive

Collective Worship and assemblies are seen as two distinct and different 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 and link to 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 and staff members meet together collectively for worship:

Monday - Whole School Collective Worship led by Head Teacher or Deputy Head Teacher

Tuesday - Whole School Collective Worship led by a member of teaching staff or Class Based Worship

Wednesday – Choral Worship

Thursday – Whole-School Collective Worship led by School Chaplain

Friday – Celebration Assembly

The values are arranged onto a three year rolling cycle and the individual acts of worship are briefly planned by the Collective Worship Leader. Once the skeleton plan is circulated to staff, individual members of staff are expected to plan their session in depth and detail giving consideration for how they can actively involve and engage the children in their worship.

The three year cycle for Collective Worship is included below with the school’s core Christian values highlighted in red.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Term 1** | **Term 2** | **Term 3** | **Term 4** | **Term 5** | **Term 6** |
| **Year A**  *Sept 2017* | **Courage** | **Responsibility** | Forgiveness | Compassion | Truthfulness | **Wisdom** |
| **Year B**  *Sept 2018* | Thankfulness | Trust | **Generosity** | Hope | **Justice** | **Humility** |
| **Year C**  *Sept 2019* | Friendship | **Service** | Respect & Reverence | Peace | **Creativity** | Perseverance |

The Collective Worship leader ensures that collective worship is programmed to cover all the above values and to provide opportunity to convey a positive attitude to environmental and social issues locally, nationally and globally. 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 begins at 10:20am every day and lasts for 20 minutes.

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 personal reflection. Through Collective Worship the school communicates the key values established within the school ethos as well as giving children the opportunity to learn from and apply key Christian values to their own lives.

Appendix 1 – Collective Worship Planning Sheet

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