

BOUGHTON-UNDER-BLEAN & DUNKIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL



Collective Worship Policy

January 2024

Review Date: January 2027

Ratified by Governors: 22/1/24

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 Methodist Primary School aims to promote a distinctive Christian ethos partly through a daily act of Collective Worship. This 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 ways 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

Tuesday - Class Based Worship

Wednesday – Visitor Worship
 Thursday – Choral worship
 Friday – Celebration Assembly

The values are arranged onto a three year rolling cycle and the individual acts of worship are 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 <i>Sept 2023</i>	Courage	Responsibility	Forgiveness	Compassion	Truthfulness	Wisdom
Year B <i>Sept 2024</i>	Thankfulness	Trust	Generosity	Hope	Justice	Humility
Year C <i>Sept 2025</i>	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. A range of different materials and websites are used in order to aid the delivery of collective worship in a way that is appropriate and relevant for our children. Our school’s Collective Worship begins at 9:10 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

<u>Collective Worship Planning Sheet – 2021 - 2022</u>	
Date:	Teacher:
Theme:	
Resource:	
Music on entry:	Song:
<p>Opening: <i>'Good morning everyone'</i> Pupils reply <i>'good morning'</i> <i>'We meet in the name of God'</i> Pupils reply <i>'Father, Son and Holy Spirit'</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>Today</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>	
Sending:	
<i>'Peace be with you'</i> Pupils reply with... <i>'and also with you'</i>	
Music on exit:	
Self-Review:	
<i>(what went well, pupil response, linked to values)</i>	