

Community Primary School

Hampshire



Collective Worship Policy

Adopted on:	May 25
Signed on behalf of the Governing Body	Mrs B Read Chair
Review Date	May 27

Policy for Collective Worship

The Aims of Collective Worship at Cherrywood are to:

- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos, and shared values.
- Provide a sense of family, community and belonging by taking opportunities to mark special celebrations and achievements, and to develop and reflect upon social and moral values.
- Reflect upon values which are of a broadly Christian nature but non-denominational (past and present, incorporating values, beliefs, traditions and patterns of worship).
- Develop an awareness of others' beliefs, cultures, patterns of worship, ceremonies, festivals; and that people achieve self-knowledge and a sense of belonging by adherence to a particular faith.
- Develop a sense of mutual tolerance and respect for the beliefs (including non-faith), cultures, and traditions of others and how their place within a democratic society such as Britain.
- Enable children to respond to the worship offered in a positive manner personally or collectively, in thought, word or silence, by exploration, appreciation, or observation, or through performances such as music, drama or dance.
- Develop spiritual awareness and provide space and time to pause for reflection and stillness.
- Give opportunity for the children to appreciate by observation or by sincere participation in the symbolism, language and actions of religious worship.
- Involve children in an activity with which they can identify, while allowing for them to be emotionally and intellectually challenged.

Rationale At Cherrywood we believe that we should engender in children:

- an awareness of the importance and value of caring and sharing
- a sense of community
- a sense of awe
- an opportunity to experience stillness and calm and to celebrate and worship.

We value the importance of children and staff taking part in an act of collective worship each school day, whilst recognising that parents do have the right to withdraw their child from worship activities.

Practice Cherrywood provides regular, planned acts of collective worship. The majority of the acts of worship are wholly or mainly of a Christian character (but non-denominational). Members of the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, Farnborough lead a monthly assembly. The acts of worship vary in format, location and attendance.

Usual weekly timetable:

Monday	School Values
Tuesday	Topical Themes or British Values
Wednesday	Topical Themes, Religious Festivals and moral, social, cultural, and spiritual issues
Thursday	Music Assembly
Friday	Celebration Assembly – where achievements of classes and individuals are recognised and celebrated

Throughout the year Class Assemblies will be held. Parents and other family members will be invited. These assemblies will afford the opportunity for children to share with the rest of the school and parents the learning that has taken place within their class.

During the school year a number of special assemblies will be held in order to celebrate Christian calendar of festivals: Harvest Festival, Christmas, and Easter.

Festivals from a range of faiths other than Christian are also highlighted.

Right of withdrawal Any parent may request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to give an explanation or reason for this.