

Navigation Primary



Working together, learning together

Collective Worship Policy

Approved by: CURRICULUM COMMITTEE **Date** 27th November 2024

Next review due AUTUMN 2027
by:

1. Introduction

The Collective Worship Policy at Navigation Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) which is constituted by law to advise the LA to convene an Agreed Syllabus Conference and to revise and recommend to the LA a local agreed syllabus for Religious Education (RE) for all maintained schools and to offer advice about collective worship. In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that 'all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship' and that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. However, in recognition of the fact that a number of Navigation Primary School's (the school's) pupils are practising members of other faiths the school seeks to ensure that collective worship at the school reflects the range of beliefs within the community in a balanced way and teaches pupils to respect all faiths equally.

2. Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

3. Aims

It is our aim at school that worship should: -

- contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child;
- celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals;
- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others;
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet;
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others or quiet reflection;
- help students to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship.

4. The leadership and organisation of Collective Worship

The responsibility for arranging school worship in our school rests with the head teacher. An act of collective worship takes place each day as a whole school, in key stages, phases or classes

5. The Act of Collective Worship

5.1 A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of collective worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of collective worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils. The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer. Acts of Collective Worship at the school take into account the student's ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

5.2 To provide students with variety in their experience of worship, acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all pupils or separate acts of worship for students in different age groups or school groups. Collective worship may be held at any time during the school day.

6. Rights of Withdrawal

6.1 At Navigation Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for collective worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only

be made following parental discussion with the head teacher/RE co-ordinator and followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

6.2 The school has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from acts of Collective Worship, however, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

6.3 All teachers, including the head teacher, have the right of withdrawal from the act of Collective Worship, but the head teacher, should he or she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for acts of Collective Worship. This right of withdrawal doesn't extend to assemblies.

7. Special Acts of Worship

7.1 **Harvest Festival** Year 5 leads this act of worship, to which year 5 parents are invited. Collections of money and goods are made for various charities and distributions of the latter are made to locally-based institutions. This act of worship is often led by a member or leader of a local church.

7.2 **Christmas** This act of worship takes the form of a Christmas songs service and an outside speaker may be invited.

7.3 **Easter** Year 3 presents this act of worship, to which all year 3 parents are invited. This act of worship is often led by a member or leader of a local church.

8. Links with the community

We try to be active within the local community. There are strong links with the local churches and our children attend events there. We aim to invite visiting members and leaders of all faiths into school to participate in events.

9. Planning, Recording and Evaluation

9.1 Collective Worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation.

9.2 The content and methodology of collective worship should be varied and there should be evidence of this in planning. The school's senior leadership team identifies themes for the whole school, key stage and class assemblies for each half term. The assemblies are planned by the member of staff who leads it. Although ideas for the delivery of the theme are provided staff may approach the given theme from their own perspective. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that teachers may feel that they need to respond to school, local or national events.

10. Equal Opportunities Statement

Navigation Primary School is committed to keeping all pupils safe and achieving great educational outcomes for all children, including those with protected characteristics as defined by Section 4 of the Equality Act 2010.

11. Monitoring

The SLT and the RE coordinator are responsible for the monitoring of the delivery and effectiveness of the school's Collective Worship Policy.