

Castlefields Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

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Collective Worship Policy

At Castlefields the act of collective worship is viewed as an important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our values of: Teamwork, Empathy, Respect, Ambition, Resilience, Independence

During our Collective Worship, we celebrate achievement and successes. We use the time to explore the world in which we live, while developing a community spirit.

We have visitors who lead Open The Book assemblies, where we learn about Christian beliefs and values.

Values

Although Collective Worship time is separate from curriculum time, we do take the opportunity to explore curriculum areas that enrich and add to the pupils experiences. We ensure there is time for children to consider and reflect and we provide rich opportunities to enhance Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

We blend Christian teaching and Character Education to create opportunities for children to develop spiritually, physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens.

Castlefields Primary School develops good habits of pupils through our Character Education work. The specific character values promoted at Castlefields School are:

Teamwork

We work together.

We are friendly and we support each other.

We allow others to join in.

Empathy

We are kind to each other.

We understand the feelings of others.

We think about the way other people may be feeling.

We try to see the world through someone else's eyes.

We understand other people may see or feel things differently to us.

Respect

We know we are all different.

We treat everyone with dignity and kindness.

We are kind, polite and show good manners.

We act with the needs, feelings and rights of others in mind.

Ambition

We are proud of our achievements.

We have the desire and want to do well.

We are determined and we work hard to achieve success.

Resilience

We never give up.

We recover quickly from difficulties.

We find strength to keep going, even when things are hard.

Independence

We have courage in ourselves.

We have our own thoughts and feelings.

We do not rely on others to do things for us.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 and 9 which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher.

Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of experiences for the children. Our assemblies are planned on a termly rota which encompasses many different Christian festivals and festivals from other religions.

We have a half termly focus on each of our values, and these are explored in Collective Worship. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday	Whole School Collective Worship led by the Headteacher or Deputy Head which usually involves the dramatization of a Bible story by the Open the Book team.
Tuesday	Global Citizen – includes values
Wednesday	Class Assembly
Thursday	Singing Assembly
Friday	Celebration Assembly- when children are awarded certificates and stickers for achievements during the past week. Class assembly or thought for the day
	Other assemblies may be inserted to link with visitors or special occasions. These are identified on the termly assembly rota.

Most assemblies last about 15 minutes.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship may contain a time for prayer or reflection. In Open The Book assemblies, the children are invited to join in a prayer and make it their own by saying Amen. If they do not wish to pray, they can sit with their heads bowed and hands in their laps to reflect either on what is being said or their own daily reflection. Children are encouraged to consider and develop their own spirituality and have quiet reflection time.

Other Faiths

We are committed to respecting other people's faith and cultures, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs.

Equal Opportunities and Special Needs issues

All pupils regardless of their academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of RE and be able to join in acts of Collective Worship.