

MARSWORTH C OF E INFANT SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do :-

Through our values of Respect, Courage, Compassion and Curiosity, Marsworth CE Infant School provides a unique, nurturing environment to inspire a love of learning in our children.

'Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their lives. Proverbs 22:6

We care for each child as an individual to support their education, social, spiritual and moral growth.

Marsworth School is a church school where a child is entitled to work in an atmosphere of friendship and trust, where relationships between all people are considerate, and caring. The curriculum should be broad based, well planned and meaningful, providing opportunities for every child to achieve his/her full potential. Learning should take place in an environment that is attractive, comfortable and well organised.

Collective worship should be an affirmation, and celebration of the values, and ethos of the school. It has meaning, and purpose being a positive experience which is worthwhile for each pupil. The children's sense of awe, and wonder is not only recognised, but also valued.

The skills developed through collective worship are spiritual, moral and cultural. In the context of collective worship, we aim to offer pupils' experiences which foster their spiritual development, to provide opportunities which embody and encapsulate the school's value and thereby promote pupils' knowledge, and understanding of their culture. These objectives will also be promoted in other aspects of their school life.

General principles: As a Church of England school, we are expected to base school worship within the broad traditions of Anglican principles, rites and practices while reflecting ecumenism. Our policy is in general accord with the policy of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education on worships in voluntary schools.

Statutory Requirements: The Education Reform Act of 1988 requires "every Governing body and Headteacher to exercise their functions with a view to securing that the curriculum promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the School and prepares such pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life." Further "all pupils shall on each school day take part in an act of collective worship."

All registered pupils will take part except where parents are exercising their right of withdrawal. The school will make clear to Parents, when pupils are enrolled, that the act of worship is central to the life of the school.

"The daily act of Collective Worship required by law in the school shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the church of England. Use should be made of the parish church or other Church of England place of worship, both for

occasional acts of collective worship and for religious education." (The National Society for Promoting Religious Education).

Daily Acts of worship

Monday	-	Bible
Tuesday	-	Reflection/Value
Wednesday	-	Singing
Thursday	-	Reflection/Value
Friday	-	Reflection/Value

These make reference to current Festivals and topics in the Agreed Syllabus.

Every half-term there is a Celebration Worship which parents are invited to attend

Rights of Withdrawal:

Under the 1944 & 1988 Acts, parents have a right to withdraw their children from R.E. and collective worship. It is expected that parents will consult the Head Teacher prior to withdrawal. All children are included equally regardless of gender and race.

Collective worship provides all children the opportunities to enhance their own spiritual and moral development by:

- Talking and listening about things that matter to them.
- Listening to what others have to say.

- Talking about some of the puzzling questions in life.
- Exploring the difference between right and wrong.
- Expressing themselves creatively through art/drama/dance.
- Discussing feelings e.g. happy, sad, angry.
- Exploring times of quiet to reflect on a study or other experience.
- Talking about things being fair/unfair.
- Responding to the wonder of the natural world.