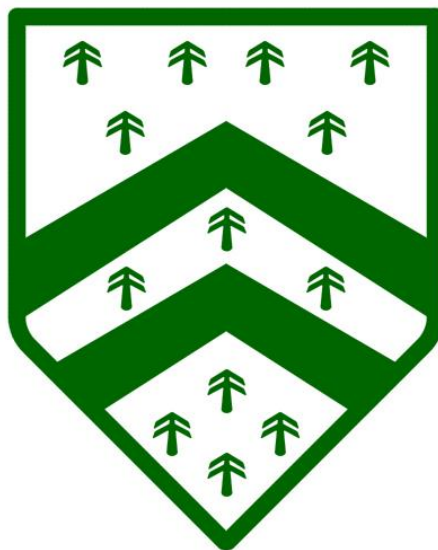


Collective Worship policy

Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School



Our Vision Statement:

At Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School, everything we do, we do with love, always staying true to our IDEALS:

We **inquire** about the wonderful world God has created to **discover** and develop the gifts God has given us. We **encourage** each other and build each other up to **achieve** our full potential. We stay true to what is right: **loving** our neighbour as ourselves. We walk out into the world **shining** as a light for other people, knowing that God gives us the strength to make all things possible and create a positive difference in our community.

Approved by:

Date:

Last reviewed on:

March 2023

Next review due by:

March 2026

Rationale

Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School is passionate about spiritual and personal development and the community. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community. It is attended by all students, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

At Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School we recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide our students with Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural education.

Aims

It is our aim at Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School that worship should: -

- contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child;
- link closely to our IDEALS and Secrets of Success
- foster a sense of awe and wonder at the beauty and mystery of the natural world;
- support the Social and Emotional development of our pupils
- give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community;
- allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings;
- celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals;
- embrace diversity and encourage acceptance;
- 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 togetherness, belonging, stillness and quiet;
- help students to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship;
- give opportunities for children to connect with each other in a way that builds relationships and self-esteem;
- support children's wellbeing in both general and specific age appropriate ways, building both awareness of good mental health as well as strategies to support it;
- Be joyful and involve singing and other activities which bring unity to our community;

Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that 'all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship'. To meet this requirement we provide a number of different opportunities for

high quality acts of worship. 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.

The responsibility for arranging school worship in our school rests with the Headteacher.

All acts of worship are in accordance with the guidance issued in circular 1/94 which states that worship should be of a 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' and not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination. By broadly Christian in this school we mean that: -

- Worship contains some elements that accord special status to Jesus and his teachings.
- Sharing with students Christian concepts linked to our vision and IDEALS

Acts of Collective Worship at Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School take into account the student's ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds. We are aware that there is an overlap in terms of 'values' between Christianity and other faiths and stories from other cultures may be used in assemblies to help get such values across.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Bishop's Tachbrook CE 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 can be made following parental discussion with the Head Teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

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.

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.

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation. The content and methodology of Collective Worship should be varied.

Those leading worship that week are encouraged to relate their worship to the school IDEALS and Secrets of Success. This will mean that by the end of the week the students will have had the opportunity to reflect from a variety of viewpoints. Class teachers may develop their class worship from the Picture

News resource, or link worship to themes explored in Collective Worship sessions. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that teachers may feel that they need to respond to local or national events. We seek to encourage pupils to voice their views on collective worship and to be a part of the evaluation process. The School Council seeks the views of their classmates and reports these findings to the Worship Team, Head Boy and Head Girl.

Resources

Resources for worship are varied and ideas are often sought from various websites. A range of stories, images and videos as well as physical items should be used to make assemblies interesting.

Review of this policy

This policy should be reviewed every 3 years.