



WHERE STARS SHINE

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

**Policy Lead  
Committee:**

Local Academy Committee

**In consultation with:** Department of Education

**Approved by:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'R. G. Allen'.

**Date:** 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Policy Date:** Summer 2022

**Review Date:** Summer 2025

**Review Frequency:** Every 3 Years

## **1. Introduction**

At Severnbanks school, the act of daily worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It gives us the opportunity to celebrate, as well as encouraging our pupils to think about their place in the world, through Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural development.

## **2. Legal Requirements**

We acknowledge the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character as well as the legal requirement stated in the 1996 Education Act, which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school or different aged groups.

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. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

### **UNITED NATIONS COVENTION ON THE RIGHTS of the CHILD ARTICLE 14**

Every child has the right to think and believe what they want and also to practice their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights of parents to give their children guidance about this right.

### **ARTICLE 30**

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

## **3. Aims & Purpose**

### **3.1 For the School:**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Severnbanks Primary school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- Share common aims and values
- Celebrate achievements and special times
- Explore the world in which we live
- Develop their community spirit

### **3.2 For the Pupils**

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on that which is considered worthy
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Explore their own beliefs
- Develop their own spirituality
- Reflect on the direction of their lives
- Reinforce positive attitudes
- Participate and respond
- Reflect on what it means to be human
- Consider the wonders and worries of the world

#### **4. 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

#### **5. The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. At Severnbanks School Collective Worship will also at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work achieved in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

#### **6. Collective Worship**

The Act of Worship will be based on:

- Values- a separate value for each term
- Special events in the Christian calendar
- World events and news
- Celebration and achievements of our pupils and school community
- Rights Respecting
- British Values

- Links with RE Discovery

Assemblies play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school; all children are valued and all achievements are recognised and celebrated.

## **7. The Act of Collective Worship**

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, age, aptitude and background of the pupils.

The headteacher and members of staff conduct assemblies, as well as local clergy and other representatives of local groups and charities e.g. Open The Book each Friday. St Mary's Church is a valuable resource, with the school community attending Harvest, Christmas, Easter, Civic Services and Leavers' Services.

We blend Christian teaching, Values Education and the RE Discovery SoW in order to create opportunities for children to develop 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.

We invite parents and Governors to celebrate assemblies with us throughout the year; strengthening our home and school links, whilst acknowledging the achievements of our children. This also helps to enhance the community spirit of the school.

**This policy will be available on the school website**

[www.severnbanksprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.severnbanksprimaryschool.co.uk)