



Copnor Primary School **Collective Worship Policy**

Rationale

The school's collective worship programme is a key part of school life. There is a daily act of collective worship which is used to encourage reflection and to promote a balance of spiritual, moral, social and cultural values. We ensure that we operate within the governor's guide to the law and keep this worship of a broadly Christian character. We purposely keep this broad as 46% of our families are non - Christian.

Aims

- To explore and share spiritual and cultural beliefs and come to an appreciation of their importance to different groups
- To consider the importance of prayer, meditation and silence
- To consider the relevance of ideas and beliefs to their own lives; think about the needs of others and develop a sense of community.
- To re-affirm, interpret and put into practice social and moral values
- To celebrate the various achievements of the members of the community that are held to be of worth.

Provision

At Copnor Primary School, we provide a daily act of collective worship through whole school assembly, year group assembly, class assembly, circle time and singing practice. This arrangement provides a variety of settings for the pupils, creating a sense of community in whole school meetings, but offering more intimate experiences in classroom collective worship. In every case – even singing assembly – a time for reflection is provided.

A theme is chosen for each week which is given either a spiritual, moral, social or cultural focus and this theme then extends through all daily acts for that week. It also extends into "Golden Child" where the children are asked to put the focus into practice in their daily work.

A wide range of experiences provided for the children ensure an interest is maintained and that the assembly theme is communicated in a clear and memorable way. These experiences include:

- A range of visitors
- Artefacts and pictures, the latter projected onto a big screen.
- Pupils' role playing, acting or demonstrating.
- Use of video clips or websites.
- Stories told with the aid of illustrations.
- Use of an interactive whiteboard.
- PowerPoint presentations
- Music, live and recorded

A quiet, calm atmosphere is provided through music or sound effects: disciplined leading in and out of the assembly area is insisted on. As often as possible links are made to other areas of school life, contributing to: PSHE, citizenship, intercultural education and RE.

A focus board showing the theme of the week is clearly visible in the whole school assembly hall. All pupils are comfortable and can see and hear what is going on.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from parts or all collective worship. Parents are not legally required to say why they wish to withdraw their children or to inform the school in writing. Copnor Primary School has the responsibility to ensure that the children withdrawn are safe and supervised. The school is not required to provide alternative collective worship, but parents may provide an alternative if they wish. Parents can take their children off the school premises for alternative worship as long as it does not interfere with the child's education provision.

Date agreed: September 2016

Review date: September 2018 Toby Simmonds (governor)