Collective Acts of Worship Policy

This policy was developed by the Senior Leadership Team in January 2016 and ratified by the Governors on 28th April 2016. This policy was last reviewed on the 20th January 2026 and will be next reviewed in the Spring Term of 2029.

The Collective Worship Policy at Iveson Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA.
In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', and in recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are practising members of other faiths we base our assemblies on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with other faiths.
The Collective Worship Policy of Iveson Primary School is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed on the school website. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

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.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

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

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

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
- 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

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum
Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Iveson Primary School, Collective Worship will, where appropriate, reflect aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by referencing subjects studied in class. 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.

The Management of Collective Worship

The Senior Leadership Team will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The role of the Governing Body is to ensure that there is provision for collective worship through school assemblies.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom.

There will be one session per week where the school comes together.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly timetables will include themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Iveson Primary School. Leaders from faiths and non-religious groups within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these traditions.

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, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly However, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from any act or acts of Collective Worship. Those wishing to make such a request are encouraged to discuss with the head teacher: (a) any particular concerns they may have and (b) practical arrangements for the withdrawal.