



The Greville Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Governors Committee Responsible	Learning & Teaching
Policy Originator	
Policy updated by	J Hallett – RE Lead
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What is Collective Worship?

Collective Worship in schools 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 reflect through engaging and relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development (SMSC).

Collective Worship at The Greville aims to:

- develop cohesion amongst the school community, helping to promote diversity, equality and inclusion;
- celebrate being part of a school community;
- promote our school values that the governors, staff, parents and children decided were important to the lifelong personal development of Greville children;
- broaden pupils' awareness of themselves, others and the world in which they live;
- explore areas which directly concern them, related to age, ability and experience;

- explore and question their own beliefs and values, alongside the beliefs and values of others;
- become reflective, deep thinking individuals in a busy and complex society;
- deepen understanding of their own culture and that of others, recognising that cultural diversity is enriching rather than threatening.
- celebrate achievement and special times

Legal Requirements

The place of collective worship in schools is upheld by law and has been so since 1944. The 1988 Education Reform Act (ERA) affirmed its statutory position, relaxing some of the restrictions on the grouping and timing of Collective Worship, confirming what had become widespread practice in schools. The subsequent 1996 Education Act and 1998 School Standards and Framework Act further confirmed the requirements, since when there has been no change to this primary legislation, by which duty schools remain bound. **“Collective worship and assembly Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities, although they may take place as part of the same gathering. Collective worship is a special time for pupils to reflect upon life experiences and ultimate questions and, if appropriate, focus on God. It should allow the pupils to be able to make a spiritual response...”**

Schools often gather for achievement assemblies, singing assemblies and curriculum assemblies. These can be made into an act of collective worship through the addition of an opportunity for reflection or prayer at the end of these times. Without it they stay as an assembly.

Each pupil in attendance at a community, foundation or voluntary school shall on each school day take part in an act of collective worship.

The law states that collective worship in all local authority maintained schools must be:

- daily for all registered pupils on the school premises;
- organised to allow pupils to be withdrawn if their parents have so requested;
- ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’;
- non-denominational (i.e. it should not reflect any particular Christian denomination).

The law does not specify:

- timing and organisation of daily collective worship;
- the size and make-up of pupil groups.

The responsibility for arranging collective worship rests with the Headteacher, after consultation with the Governing Body.

The Greville School Values

In 2022 the staff, pupils, parents and governors considered what key values should underpin the children's education; values which would help the children develop as positive citizens both at school and out of school, and in preparation for adulthood.

The four Greville Values are:

KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY RESILIENCE

Our school is a community of children and adults from a variety of different backgrounds which makes it an exciting place to be. Understanding and celebrating our differences is very important when building a strong and supportive community, both at The Greville and the wider world in which we all live.

We actively promote diversity through our celebrations of different faiths and cultures. We ensure children have the opportunity to learn about different cultures and religions that exist between people and faiths. Members of different faiths and religions are encouraged to share their knowledge to enhance learning within the classes and the school.

Reflection as part of Collective Worship

Time for reflection offers pupils a moment of stillness and quiet in a busy world, and enables them to internalise the main ideas within collective worship.

Reflection can be encouraged by:

- asking pupils to listen quietly to a piece of music and consider what they have just heard;
- using phrases such as 'let us just sit quietly for a moment and think about what we have just seen or heard' or 'let us close our eyes and open our hearts and minds';
- leading pupils through a time of guided reflection e.g. giving them ideas, names of people to think about etc.;
- lighting a candle and asking pupils to focus on the flickering flame;
- using pictures or images.

During reflection pupils are able to absorb and respond to the main ideas within collective worship at their own level.

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn by discussion with the Headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

Collective Worship Weekly Timetable

Assemblies and collective worship at The Greville may be at any time of day and are usually organised as follows:

Monday	Celebration assemblies for both Infants and Juniors including occasional themed content on diversity, a Religious festival such as Diwali, Harvest, Remembrance, Chinese New Year, Lent, Ramadan and Eid.	Led by: Headteacher Deputy Headteacher
Tuesday	Juniors 'Singing Together' assembly (Y3/4 and Y5/6) Teaching songs connected to a variety of Religious celebrations – Harvest, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Easter. Or, Collective worship in class	Led by: Mrs M Heywood
Wednesday	Votes for Schools assembly (Y3/4 and Y5/6) Concentrating on local, national and world themes to promote diversity, awareness, British Values, discussion and time for reflection. Or, Collective worship in class	Led by: Class teachers
Thursday	EYFS and Infants 'Singing Together' assembly. Teaching songs connected to a variety of Religious celebrations – Harvest, Christmas, Chinese New Year, Easter. Or, Collective worship in class	Led by: Mr R Wood
Friday	'Votes For Schools' assemblies for Infants. Concentrating on local, national and world themes to promote diversity, awareness, British Values, discussion and time for reflection. Key Stage 2 class assembly	Led by: Class teachers Children

Appendix 1

Diversity, Equality, Inclusion and Religious Events Calendar

Please note: some dates are not set and may move depending on the year.

AUTUMN TERM 2023	Key events	
September 2023		
16 th -17 th 2023	Rosh Hashnanah	Jewish festival
23 rd – 25 th 2023	Yom Kippur	Jewish day of atonement
October 2023		
1 st – 31 st October 2023	Black History Month	Awareness
Date tbc	Harvest assemblies for the whole school	Christian festival
5 th October 2023	World Teachers Day	Awareness
10 th October 2023	World Mental Health Day	Awareness
20 th October 2023	Show Racism the Red Card Day	Recognising equality and diversity in the world.
November 2023		
1 st November 2023	All Saints Day	Christian – what is a saint? Well-known saints.
11 th November 2023	Remembrance Day	Remembering those who served in wars.
12 th November 2023	Diwali	Hindu festival of lights
13 th to 17 th November 2023	Anti – Bullying Week	Awareness
13 th November 2023	World Kindness Day	Awareness
18 th November 2023	Children in Need	Charity awareness
December 2023		
3 rd December 2023	Start of Advent	Christian countdown to Christmas Day.
8 th - 15 th December 2023	Hanukkah	Jewish festival of lights
Date tbc	Christmas Nativities	EYFS and KS1 in school
14 th December 2023 AM – Junior services PM – Infant service	Christmas Services for the whole school.	Christian. St. George's Church, Ashtead.
SPRING TERM 2024		
January 2024		
6 th January 2024	Epiphany	Roman Catholic celebration of the arrival of the 3 kings
15 th January 2024	World Religion Day	Awareness
February 2024		
10 th February 2024	Chinese New Year	2024 Year of the dragon
13 th February 2024	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)	Christian
14 th February 2024	Valentine's Day	Christian
14 th February 2024	Ash Wednesday	Christian – Roman Catholic/start of Lent
15 th February	Parinirvana Day	Buddhist
March 2024		
10 th March 2024	Ramadan starts	Muslim
10 th March 2024	Mother's Day	Awareness
17 th March 2024	Comic Relief/Red Nose Day	Charity awareness
24 th March 2024	Palm Sunday	Christian -start of Holy Week
25 th March 2024	Holi Festival	Hindu
29 th March 2024	Good Friday	Christian
April 2024		
9 th April 2024	Eid-ul-Fitr	Muslim
22 nd April 2024	Earth Day	Awareness
23 rd April 2024	St. George's Day	Christian
22 nd – 30 th April 2024	Passover festival	Jewish
Date tbc	Easter assemblies for the whole school	Christian

Date tbc	Easter themed assembly to whole school.	Leaders local churches visit.
May 2024		
13 th – 20 th May 2024	Mental Health Awareness Week	Awareness
19 th May 2024	Pentecost (Birthday of Christianity)	Christian
SUMMER TERM 2024		
June 2024		
14 th -19 th June 2024	Hajj	Muslim pilgrimage
16 th June 2024	Father's Day	Awareness
20 th June 2024	World Refugee Day	Awareness
Date tbc	Year 6 Leavers' Service	Whole community

Review Schedule

Committee	FGB	Comments
Learning & Teaching Nov 2019		Reviewed – correction to legislative references: School Standards and Framework Act <u>1998</u>
Learning and Teaching		Reviewed and updated with changes. March 2023