

SCAWSBY SALTERSGATE INFANT SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Assembly Time at
Saltersgate Infant School

Policy Approved by Governors	February 2023
Review Date	February 2025

Collective Worship at Saltersgate Infant School

Introduction

Under current legislation, all children of school age are expected to engage in a daily act of Collective Worship unless their parents specifically ask that they be excluded. 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.

Schools have a duty to actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law; individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. At Saltersgate Infants, part of our strategy is to take the opportunity to actively promote British Values through daily collective worship. Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Saltersgate, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich class-work 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 and with our duty to support and embed British Values within the wider curriculum. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should 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.

Aims

For the school;

- To share common aims and values
- To celebrate achievement and special times
- To develop the sense of school as a community
- Explore the world in which we live

For the pupils;

- Having assemblies which contain broadly, though not exclusively, Christian elements
- Having assemblies which celebrate achievement and special occasions
- Having assemblies in which children perform in a variety of art or other forms
- Having assemblies which convey moral or spiritual messages

- Having assemblies which celebrate festivals of other faiths, cultures and countries
- Having assemblies which involve learning about other faiths
- Having assemblies which celebrate the wonders of the world and develop and deepen the children's understanding

The act of Collective Worship may involve;

- Reading a story
- Listening to a speaker
- The use of artefacts
- Questioning of pupils
- Drama or role-play
- Having an opportunity for a moment of quiet reflection

Themes

Themed assemblies will aim to develop children's wider understanding of the world and community around them. Themes chosen will be appropriate to the age of the children and relevant to their understanding. Chosen themes may also relate to special times and days in the calendar.

Special assemblies may be led by visitors to the school under the direction of the Headteacher.

Assemblies are organised as follows;

- Monday: Whole school Golden Rule/Characteristics of Learning assembly
- Tuesday: Whole school themed assembly based upon British Values
- Wednesday: Key Stage Assemblies
- Thursday: Whole school themed assembly and/or Whole school singing assembly
- Friday: EYFS and KS1 Golden Citizen and celebration assemblies

Planning

Collective Worship, like any other area of the curriculum needs careful planning, to be well resourced and a variety of teaching styles employed. Children, especially in large groups, need to be interested and involved in order that they are not distracted or attempt to distract others. Staff ensure that assemblies are well planned, resourced and the room prepared in advance so that the assembly may commence as soon as the children are in.

Our School Promise

During Collective Worship, children may recite the school promise and be encouraged to reflect upon the meaning of the words and phrases within it.

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this 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. Should the theme of assembly be non-religious, all children will attend.