

Collective Worship Policy

Shamblehurst Primary School



Approved by:

Date:

Last reviewed on: Feb 2022

Next review due by:

Shamblehurst Primary School is a non-denominational, non-selective mixed primary school. As such it is subject to the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988 with regard to the provision of Collective Worship.

The above Act states that:

- ‘All pupils attending a maintained school should take part in daily Collective Worship.’
- ‘It is the Headteacher’s duty to secure this. The governing body must also exercise their functions with a view to securing this.’
 - ‘The timing and organisation of daily Collective Worship can be flexible.’
 - ‘As a rule, all aspects of Collective Worship should take place on the premises.’

Aims:

Worship is a process through which individuals and communities affirm those things which are of worth to them. It may be a moral concern, a shared ethos or an appreciation of people’s faiths and beliefs.

Acts of Collective Worship at Shamblehurst Primary School aim to encourage pupils to respond, even though some pupils may not feel able to actively identify with a specific act of worship. The staff are aware that ‘Collective Worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature.’

In addition to this, Collective Worship at Shamblehurst Primary School aims to:

- Provide all pupils with opportunities to consider, reflect upon and respond to aspects of human experience.
- Develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, reinforcing positive values.
 - Think about our school values which are:

In order to discover the brilliance in everyone we are committed to achieve:

- A happy and healthy community
- An engaged and accountable community
- A compassionate and kind community
- An inclusive community of lifelong learners
- A community of empathetic and curious critical thinkers
 - A community that celebrates diversity
 - A community of Global Citizens
- Reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities and may be directly or indirectly concerned with reverence.
- Reflect the day to day life and concerns of all at Shamblehurst Primary School whilst preserving the integrity of all its pupils.

Organisation of Collective Worship:

Pupil organisation

The pupils are given opportunities to meet three times a week as a key Stage. Sadly unless we use Zoom, our hall capacity is too small to accommodate the whole school. The weekly structure of assemblies is as follows:

Monday – Key Stage Assembly led by the SEND team. This assembly focuses on one of our school values as well as mental health and well being. Themes also include diversity and difference.

Tuesday and Wednesday – class based assemblies. PSHE theme, discussion from worry box or follow up from Key Stage assemblies.

Thursday – Key Stage assembly – theme agreed by Key Stage leader which reflects school Vision and values as well as safeguarding and events.

Friday – Whole school Celebration Assembly led by the Headteacher or Deputy head teacher
Foundation Stage children are gradually introduced to Collective Worship involving Key Stage 1 as they become developmentally ready.

Collective Worship themes:

The following themes are used throughout the year:

- The themes from PSHE curriculum
- Our school values Courage, Creativity, Pride and Respect.
 - British values
 - E-safety
 - Global Neighbours
 - Mental Health and Well being
 - Safeguarding

Stories, pictures and videos are selected from a range of sources to illustrate the themes.

Content of collective Worship:

A candle is sometimes lit which is the focus during the time allocated for reflection . Each week we share a 'Together We Can ' Statement

Additional Assemblies

Sometimes they are led by a visitor from the community such as a minister from a local church , a charity or public service such as the police.

Many of the aspirations, and spiritual and moral issues raised in collective worship, are reflected in the Religious Education and PSHE which takes place within other areas of the curriculum (see policies for Religious Education and SCARF resources and Sex and Relationships Policy)

Celebration Assemblies

One child from each class is nominated by the class teacher to receive a certificate for flexing one of the learning muscles. These are:

Listening

Independence

Creativity

Perseverance

Collaboration

Empathy

Questioning

Reasoning

Capitalising

Engagement

Children are presented with a certificate and their names are celebrated in our newsletter, Certificates for other school achievements such as representing the school at a sporting or musical event, achievements in times tables Rock Stars as well as Outdoor Learner of the week are sometimes awarded.

Equal Opportunities:

While the majority of acts of Collective Worship are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other faiths within our school and wider community. We welcome visits from members of all religious groups.

Rights to withdraw a child:

The 1944, 1988 and 1993 Education Acts, uphold the parents' rights to withdraw their children from an Act of Collective Worship (ERA S9 3).

Any parent who wishes to withdraw their child from Collective Worship will need to write a letter to that effect which should identify their reasons for such exclusion. It is the Headteacher's responsibility to offer cover for that child during assembly times. It is also appropriate that any member of staff may withdraw from Collective Worship.

Attached our themes for Key Stage Assemblies for the year 2021-22 delivered by the SEND team and Key Stage leaders.