

Bordon Junior School

Policy for Collective Worship

Collective worship is a time for the whole school to come together and, as such, it plays a key role in fostering attitudes and values which we consider make an important contribution to the ethos of our school and to the moral, spiritual and cultural development of its pupils.

Aims

Collective worship provides opportunities for children to:

- explore beliefs and develop respect for and tolerance towards the beliefs of others
- think about spiritual and moral issues
- engage in moments of quiet reflection
- experience feelings which have a spiritual dimension e.g. awe, wonder and a sense of mystery
- become aware of the needs of others
- develop a sense of belonging to a community with shared values, identity and purpose
- enjoy positive self image and learn to value others through celebration of achievements of all kinds
- share events which are meaningful in the context of the school community.

Guidelines

1. Bordon Junior School follows the LA Agreed Religious Education Syllabus *Living Difference* as such Collective worship in our school should be of a broadly Christian character.
2. Reference should be made to the programme of assembly themes to ensure key areas are covered in line with Rights, Respect and Responsibility, as well as the S. E. A. L. S programme (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) and the schools Golden Code. This ensures a whole school approach and has greatest impact on learning.
3. Collective Worship can make use of a variety of resources e.g. stories, drama, music, pictures and artefacts.
4. It can involve different styles of presentation, and contributions by staff, visitors, and groups of children and whole classes.
5. Collective Worship should encourage the children to participate in a variety of ways e.g. listening, reflecting, discussing and singing, though sensitivity needs to be exercised and children should be invited, not compelled, to join in verbal responses.
6. As far as possible, the atmosphere for Collective Worship should be calm and relaxed and thought needs to be given to the timing of extraneous items such as notices and comments on behaviour.
7. Collective Worship should meet the needs of, and provide a learning experience for, all members of our school community, regardless of social, cultural or religious background.
8. In the weekly praise assembly the children share their work and there is a celebration of their achievements.

Parents have the right under the Education Reform Act of 1988 to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. In cases where this intention has been expressed in writing to the Governors, arrangements will be made for such children to work under supervision elsewhere in school.

This policy was formulated by the Head teacher and staff and is submitted to the governing body of Bordon Junior School for their approval. It is reviewed every two years.

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C James