

LANGLEY SCHOOL **POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The 1988 Reform Act legislates that **"all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each school day take part in an Act of Collective Worship"** (section 6.1).

Collective worship is a religious occasion, which encourages the spiritual, moral and cultural development of all children present. It gives an opportunity to recognise, draw on, reflect on, affirm and celebrate the beliefs and values of those in the school and the community, and the wider world – (*"Collective Worship in Birmingham"*). The majority of these acts of worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature.

Aims and Entitlement

Collective worship/assembly are distinct activities. They may take place at the same gathering, the difference between them should be clear. The DES emphasises that worship in schools:

- a) must reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities;
- b) should be concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a being or power regarded as supernatural or divine;
- c) should be such that a pupil, at his or her own level, is capable of perceiving (a) and (b);
- d) can include "seemingly everyday activities - provided they are appropriate within the context of the act of worship as a whole";
- e) could be incorporated within assembly, but must be distinct from those parts which deal solely with secular matters.

Therefore, collective worship will encompass activities which make explicit and which celebrate things that the school considers to be important. It will encourage participation and response through active involvement or through listening to and joining in the worship offered. It will develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.

Langley School takes account of the policy guidelines and follows the requirement to include the SEAL themes each term, including the two weeks on bullying close to each half term holiday. Also incorporated are many of Birmingham's SACRE's "24 Spiritual and Moral Dispositions", which divide into clusters highlighting creativity, compassion, choice, community, commitment and contemplation.

All children must take part in collective worship unless specifically withdrawn by their parents/carers. Teaching staff have the same entitlement.

Organisation and Resources

Collective worship will take place each day. It will take the form of whole school gathering.

It will be led by the headteacher, deputy headteacher, teaching staff (with or without their class) or invited persons as appropriate and may take the form of stories, talks, songs and activities. Collective worship is planned on a two-year cycle with a theme for the each half term. This is then broken down into weekly themes, which act as a guide to staff. Each class will participate in presenting one assembly each term. The content may include stories, learning from experience, acknowledging celebrations/festivals, reflecting on local, national and world issues and religious ideas and may provide the opportunity for individual reflection. One gathering each week will focus on singing hymns and meaningful songs.

Resources include holy books, books, posters, artefacts, the Internet and ICT visitors, events and activities in the school calendar, news items, festivals and the thematic curriculum.

Collective Worship **Times**

Monday	10:15 – 10.10
Tuesday	10:15 – 10.30
Wednesday	10:15 – 10.30
Thursday	10:15 – 10.30
Friday	10:15 – 10.30

Reviewed October 2017