

Marine Park First School Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at Marine Park First School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its **Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE)**.

The Collective Worship Policy of Marine Park First School is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus.

Definition of Collective Worship

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.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Marine Park First School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Marine Park First School, 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. 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.

The Management of Collective Worship

The Senior Leadership team plan, deliver monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall, dining hall, one of the multipurpose rooms or the classroom.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership

Typically, senior school staff and occasional visitors and groups e.g. school council, Eco Club will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly planning/organization sheets list responsibilities, themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Marine Park First School. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these Faiths.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself.

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request, in writing, 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.

Policy created autumn 2011
Presented to curriculum sub on 24.1.2012
Reviewed Jan 2016
Ratified at curriculum Jan 16



MARINE PARK FIRST SCHOOL - Equality Impact Assessment

1. Name of the change, strategy, project or policy:	COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY		
2. Name of person(s) completing this form:	S. EASTON		
3. Has the policy/practice been assessed to consider any potential impact on the equality groups?			
<p>Yes – This Policy allows those with a religious commitment the possibility of entering into worship and those with no religious commitment to simply reflect on the key ideas. The school also respects the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship and for staff to withdraw. In this way we aim both to affirm and to protect the integrity of all members of the school community. The School will fulfil its obligations to equality by approaching its practices in Collective Worship in a fair and consistent manner.</p>			
Where potential impact has been identified, please complete questions 5-9. If none is identified, please proceed to question 10.			
4. Equality Target Group (circle):	Negative impact – it could disadvantage	Reason	
Race Religion/belief Disability Gender Gender Reassignment Sexual Orientation Age Pregnancy/Maternity Marriage & Civil Partnerships			
5.		Yes	No
a) Is the impact legal/lawful? Seek advice from your School link HR Advisor if necessary.			
b) Is the impact intended?			
6. Does this action/policy/procedure attempt to meet the aims of the public sector equality duty? (this should feed into your Single equality scheme & action plan)		Yes, No, N/A	If yes, please provide details
Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation			
Advance equality of opportunity between different equality groups			
Foster good relations between different equality groups			
7. If you have identified any negative impact, have you identified any ways of avoiding or minimising it?			
8. Is it possible to consider a different policy/strategy/action, which still achieves your aim, but avoids any negative impact on people?			
9. In light of all the information detailed in this form; what practical actions would you take to reduce or remove any negative impact?			

PART B) To be completed when assessment and consultation has been carried out

10.a) As a result of the assessment and consultation completed in Part A above, state whether there will need to be any changes made to the policy, project or planned action.

10.b) As a result of this assessment and consultation, does the school need to commission specific research on this issue or carry out monitoring/data collection?

No.

11. Have you set up a monitoring/evaluation/review process to check the successful implementation of the policy, project or change?

Yes

x

No

The Governing Body will receive information periodically from the RE Curriculum Coordinator and Headteacher regarding Collective Worship. This policy will be kept under periodic review.