**Hapton CE/Methodist Primary School**



**“I will lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.”**

**Psalm 121 v 1-2**

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

The Collective Worship Policy at Hapton CE/Methodist Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the Local Authority through its SACRE (Lancashire).

The Collective Worship Policy of Hapton CE/Methodist Primary School reflects the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus and on our school website.

**Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to Worship God and to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging, 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 Hapton CE/Methodist Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

* share common aims and Christian values
* celebrate God’s creation, our achievements and special times in our lives
* 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 God
* reflect on that which is considered worthy
* consider spiritual and moral issues
* explore their own beliefs
* develop their own spirituality
* reflect on the direction of their lives
* reinforce positive attitudes
* participate and respond
* reflect on what it means to be human
* consider the wonders and worries of the world
* to learn how to live out our Christian values

**The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Hapton CE/Methodist Primary 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 will 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 Worship Co-ordinator( Headteacher), Deputy head and representatives of each class, ministers from St Margarets’ & Hapton Methodist Church & selected pupils form the Worship Team.

The role of the team will be to 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, or the classroom or Outdoors. Worship is also held at both local churches.

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

**Leadership**

Every member of the school staff, ministers, pupils and occasional visitors 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.

Yearly planning overviews list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at our School. Ministers or other visitors from both Anglican & Methodist traditions lead worship regularly.

Leaders from faiths and non-religious groups within the area increase the pupils’ awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these traditions.

**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. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (Music, a moment of silence etc.)

Collective Worship is at the heart of our school life and the Governors see it as an essential part of all pupils’ education.  As such we are concerned to resource it properly and ensure that it is of the highest standard.  The worship and prayer life of the school is not limited to the legally required daily acts of worship.  Opportunities will be taken to use prayer and meditation exercises in the curriculum generally and at the end of the morning and afternoon.

The Church of England/Methodist Heritage

 Forms of worship within our denomination(s) differ and these differences enable us to provide a varied range of approaches to worship whilst remaining rue to our Trust Deeds.  As well as drawing on our denominational heritage, we also occasionally expect to draw on the rich tapestry of practice in the world-wide Christian Church.

***Whatever the approaches, we expect that pupils will be introduced to the key beliefs and aspects of the Christian faith and helped to explore them.  These would include***:

 The nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

 The nature of human beings as children of God, part of his creation and, though sinful, destined for eternal life;

 Jesus as the Son of God who, through his life, death and resurrection, broke the power of evil and restored humanity’s relationship with God;

 The central values of forgiveness, selfless love, redemption, goodness, compassion and charity;

 The central place of the Bible as a source of knowledge about God and Jesus and as a source of inspiration and guidance;

 The importance of prayer;

 The central symbols of Christianity;

 The cycle of the Church year.

**Withdrawal**

Parents/Carers have the right to withdraw their child from any act or acts of Collective Worship. Those wishing to make such a request are encouraged to discuss with the head

Practical arrangements for the withdrawal should be made whilst ensuring dignity for the pupil (s) and a sense of belonging in the school community.

The provision of collective worship conforms to Diocesan/District policy alongside recommendations from Lancashire SACRE.

Policy to be reviewed July 2025