

Sand Hutton and Warthill Federated CofE (VC) Primary Schools

Collective Worship Policy

Rationale

At Sand Hutton and Warthill CE (VC) Primary Schools we believe Collective Worship is a time to come together, as a community, to share common values and principles and to develop a sense of awe and wonder concerning our place within the world.

We promote a Christian Ethos in our school, where the values of our Christian faith of mutual respect, care and love are embedded in every area of our school life. We aim to contribute to the faith of every individual in the school. We plan opportunities for reflection and encourage children's sense of awe and wonder throughout the curriculum.

Aims

Collective Worship will provide opportunities for spiritual, emotional and intellectual growth as well as moral, social and cultural development.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to:

- worship God
- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a sense of community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- consider the importance of reflection in prayer, meditation and silence
- respond to the worship offered

Organisation

It is our intention that Collective Worship at our schools will fulfil the legal requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act, pertaining to Voluntary Controlled Schools. The Governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that these requirements are met.

Themes for Collective Worship are planned by the co-ordinator with input from other staff and pupils; they follow the Christian calendar as well as areas of study in RE and P.S.H.C.E.

Guidelines

Collective Worship will be held daily. The sessions will be broadly Christian, but the music, stories and themes will allow all the children to benefit from them.

The format of Collective Worship will allow for a variety of agreed themes and stories, styles and presentations. It will be led by members of staff, the church, children and members of the wider community.

Fortnightly Sharing Assemblies will celebrate the children's good work and achievements and will reinforce the schools Golden Rules which are based on the teachings of Jesus.

Services will be held within the local churches to celebrate Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship, but we hope that they will understand that these sessions play an important part in the ethos of the school and so will only do so after consultation with the Head teacher and/or the Governing Body.

Evaluation

Evaluation strategies currently used by staff for assessing the outcomes of collective worship are:

- observation of the children's attentiveness and level of interest shown during the sessions
- feedback from pupils and parents
- observation of the children's general behaviour in and around school.

Resources

Collective Worship books are held centrally and available to all staff.

Review:

