

Leadgate Primary School



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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Reviewed by: Headteacher

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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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1. Rationale

At Leadgate Primary School pupils will be given the opportunity to join in an act of collective worship every week with a whole school gathering or class group. As a part of every school day there will also be opportunities for reflection, celebration, thanksgiving or quiet within class groups.

Pupils and staff gather together for a regular assembly, which includes an act of worship within it. On these occasions the school will assemble as a community and the activities will include time to consider and celebrate aspects of the spiritual dimension of life, reflecting the varied beliefs and experiences of all pupils and teachers or reflect on wider British values.

There may be some planned times to be quiet; time to listen, think and to reflect. Worship at Leadgate Primary School will offer time to focus on things that are special to us as individuals and as a community and will reinforce the work we embrace with our pupils in developing their social, emotional, spiritual and cultural well-being. The pupils will be supported to engage in reflection according to their level of understanding. At Leadgate Primary School we recognise that worship can be experienced and expressed in a range of ways in addition to the spoken word. Music, song, art and interaction all play an important part in children's engagement with worship and are celebrated as both relevant and meaningful.

For our weekly assemblies there is an identified, planned theme, which changes throughout the school year. The assembly is accompanied by music and led by a teacher, supported by the school community where all pupils are encouraged to participate and engage. There will be varying degrees of explicit or implicit reference to Christianity and assemblies also make reference to all other main faiths. One day of the week assembly time will also be used to celebrate and praise the individual achievements and success of pupils. The diversity of religious belief and practice amongst the pupils at Leadgate Primary School will be represented in the act of collective worship and the community is expected and encouraged to be both tolerant and inclusive.

2. Aims

- For all pupils to celebrate that which is of worth and experience a sense of belonging.
- For all pupils to have a time for sharing feelings and be listened to.
- For all pupils to be able to celebrate diversity but within a context that gives a sense of shared values and community.
- For all pupils to feel able to express and experience worship in a way that is meaningful to them.
- To enable our pupils to come together and experience a time of quiet inner reflection.

3. Legal Requirement

Every pupil in school should attend collective worship (unless withdrawn by their parents or carers) so far as it is practicable (1988 Education Reform Act, School Collective Worship) Parents and Carers: (See the extract from the 1988 Act – above) Parents will be advised when special assemblies take place at Leadgate Primary School and receive an invitation to attend when appropriate. If parents wish to withdraw their child they should write to the Head Teacher expressing their thoughts and concerns.

Themes are carefully drawn up for each week of the school year. Common themes will be lead across particular days on the week with the same teacher / member of SLT leading on each day of the week. Wherever possible they have been linked with religious festivals and observance days. Sometimes an additional observance date may be included. Some assemblies cover topics that embrace values common to Christianity as well as other world faiths, such as friendship, sharing and 'trying our best'.

4. Expectations for the Assembly and Collective Worship

The member of staff taking the assembly should be well prepared and ready to greet both pupils and staff. Activities and resources should be made ready and music is usually played. They may be supported by members of the Leadership Team. Staff bringing the pupils to assembly should ensure that they are calm and quiet as they reach the doors to the hall. Pupils arriving later should enter quietly and join their class group as quietly as possible.

Staff are expected to model good listening behaviour. Pupils will be expected to participate appropriately in assemblies and staff should encourage this, through the assemblies they prepare and in their own responses. Pupils will be encouraged to join in with the activities and also with singing. The member of staff leading the assembly will ensure that guidance is given for the pupils to leave in an orderly manner.

Whole School Over View

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Upper Site – Keystage 2					
Theme	Mental Health	World Religion	Christian and British Values	Singing and celebration	VIP
Staff Lead	Miss Scarr	Mrs Faulkner	Mr Sims	Mrs Hannon	Rolling Rota of staff
Lower Site – Keystage 1					
Theme	Miss Weaver	Mrs Reed	FM	INCLASS	VIP
Staff Lead	Christian and British values	Singing and Celebration	Christian and British values	All staff	Rolling Rota of staff