



## Wyton on the Hill Primary School Policy for Collective Worship

Collective worship occupies a unique place in the life of schools. “Worship” has a wide range of meanings and forms of expression. For some this will be personal devotion to God; for others it will mean reflection on & understanding of those elements of life which are of value & worth.

Our aims:

- ◆ Collective worship will contribute to the children’s spiritual and moral growth by providing space & time for reflection, prayer, praise & celebration.
- ◆ To enable pupils to feel involved in school worship, to celebrate / reflect on events, talents and achievements.
- ◆ To make worship a meaningful experience for all involved, enabling children to appreciate their worth and value in the community.

Legal requirements:

Worship is required by law. It is not the same as an assembly but it may form part of an assembly. The main requirements are:

- a. Worship should be held daily but may be at any time of the day
- b. It may be for different age groups & need not be the whole school together
- c. It shall be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”. However it should be non-denominational
- d. It should be appropriate to the ages, aptitudes & family backgrounds of the pupils.

Parental rights:

Parents may withdraw their children from collective worship if they so wish and will be asked to put their request in writing to the Head teacher. Responsibility for the supervision of those pupils remains with the school.

Collective worship at Wyton:

Most collective worship will take place in the form of a short period of quiet, calm, personal reflection during assemblies which will be based on a Rights Respecting theme. Festivals, celebrations or important events will be included.

In order for our assemblies to provide individuals with the opportunity to take part in quiet, calm, personal reflection, the following guidelines should be observed:

- Children should enter the hall quietly or in a manner which focusses attention on the spiritual / moral / spiritual theme of the assembly (e.g. with an appropriate song / poem).
- Each week a variety of visual / auditory stimuli will be chosen for the children to promote engagement quiet contemplation – or ‘collective reflection’.
- Children will be actively encouraged to join in the act of worship / contemplation / reflection
- Children should leave the hall quietly or in a manner which focusses attention on the spiritual / moral theme of the assembly (e.g. with an appropriate song / poem).

### Monitoring and Review

The impact of this policy will be monitored annually by the school's Personal Development Leader and reported back to the Governing Body at a meeting of the Governing Body at least annually.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Full Governing Body.