



# Trent Vale Infant and Nursery School and

# Beeston Rylands Junior School

## POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

### INTRODUCTION

- **THIS DOCUMENT IS** a statement of the aims and principles of Collective Worship at Trent Vale Infant and Nursery School and Beeston Rylands Junior School
- **IT WAS DEVELOPED** in 2004 through a process of consultation with teaching staff and governors
- **IT WILL BE** continuously reviewed, updated and approved by the Governing Body Headteacher and RE subject leader
- This policy will be **REVIEWED ANNUALLY**

Date of review	Autumn 2016	Autumn 2017	Autumn 2018
Signed			

The law requires that there is a daily act of worship for all registered pupils.

Collective worship takes place in the hall during whole school assembly or in the classroom during class assemblies as detailed on the Assembly Rota.

In accordance with legislation, we accept that Collective Worship is where a collection of people – either whole school or class, possessing a diversity of religious, agnostic and non religious backgrounds – gather to affirm or give worth to the values and ideals of others.

Children are not told what they ought to believe, rather they are given space to think about and consider the beliefs of others.

The law requires that, in the main, Collective Worship will focus on and invite consideration of Christian belief. However, commitment to Christian belief is not assumed in those taking or those attending collective worship. Children will consider what is meant by ‘God’ and learn about the Christian belief of God.

In addition children will consider the beliefs held by other religious groups, listen to stories of the lives and service of Christians throughout Christendom and Christian History, and learn about the contribution that individuals and key figures from other religious backgrounds have made to life through self sacrifice and devotion.

It provides opportunities for pupil and staff in the school to reflect together on:-

- What is important in life
- What it means to be human – exploring a range of beliefs and ideas and how th behaviour of some people gives and example of the best a human can become
- Ideas of right and wrong – applying these to current, personal, school and external issues
- What contributes to the way in which people live and work together as communities, both in school and beyond
- Ways in which different people in different places and times have experienced, responded to and expressed issues of belief and behaviour.

**OUR PRINCIPLES OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP at Trent Vale Infant and Nursery School and Beeston Rylands Junior School** are that

- It is educational – a learning experience for the whole school community.
- It contributes to the religious education of all the pupils
- It is a special time
- It is shaped to the needs of our school.

**It includes:**

Music  
Story  
Art work  
Artefacts  
Input from the children  
Prayer / thinking time  
Drama  
Video  
Poetry  
Readings  
Visitors  
Use of OHP / Data Projector / flipchart  
Puppets

There is no compulsion to take part in the prayers that sometimes form part of the assemblies. Children are invited to pray rather than instructed to do so. Children are regularly reminded that if they do not want to pray they must sit quietly and respect others who do.

**Withdrawal of children**

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly. However, 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 teacher: -

- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to their child taking part
- The practical implications of the withdrawal to ensure both school and parents feel the arrangements being made are appropriate and beneficial for the individual child.
- Whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such worship, and if so, how much.

There is a complaints procedure for parents who are not satisfied that the daily worship is in accordance with the Act.

**Staff right of withdrawal**

Members of staff also have the right to withdraw from Collective Worship. Those wishing to make such a request are encouraged to discuss with the head teacher: -

- any particular concerns they may have
- the practical arrangements for the withdrawal to ensure the children in their care are appropriately supported and supervised.

**OTHER POLICY DOCUMENTS THAT SUPPORT THIS POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

- RE
- SMSC including British (Human) Values
- Equal Opportunities
- PSHCE
- Equality