



**Margaretting Primary School**  
**Collective Worship Policy – 2017**  
**Ratified: March 2017**  
**Review date: March 2018**

*This policy has been written in accordance with our school vision and aims. At the heart of every decision is the recognition that children have rights and responsibilities. Where possible, children and parents are consulted when decisions are made using our school council and pupil/parent perceptions.*

**What is collective worship?**

Collective worship is a special act or occasion, the main purpose of which is to show reverence to God. Collective worship should involve all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. The 1988 Education Reform Act, states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. The majority of acts of worship in our school should reflect Christian traditions and ideology. Collective worship ought to reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities. Collective worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship

God, to consider the spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to, watching and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

An act of collective worship is distinct from an assembly. Although they often take place during the same gathering, the difference between the two should be clear.

**Aims and purpose**

To provide an opportunity for the children to worship God

To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues

To enable children to explore their own beliefs

To encourage participation and response

To develop in children a sense of community spirit

To promote a common ethos with shared with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes

To teach children how to worship

**Right of withdrawal**

We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

**Safety**

When large numbers of children are in the hall then it is important that all exits are clear and not blocked by furniture. Children moving from the hall should do so under

supervision and should walk quietly in class lines. Lit candles should be kept at a safe distance from the pupils. If the fire alarm rings then children should go out by the nearest exit into the playground with the teachers who are supervising assembly. No one should return to their classroom first.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Children's entitlement to Acts of Collective Worship should not be affected by gender, culture, race or special needs. It is important that there are no barriers to this equality of opportunity.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The co-ordinator is willing to provide help, support and ideas to any member of staff in planning and delivering acts of collective worship on a class, phase or whole school level. Although the sole responsibility for collective worship lies with the Headteacher, the Coordinator will ensure this policy is implemented and new ideas, guidance and legal requirements are cascaded to the staff. It is the role of a named School Governor with responsibility for religious education and collective worship to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. The Governor concerned should liaise with the Head teacher before reporting to the Governors on religious education and collective worship

### **ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school.

Monday	Whole School 8.40 – 9am	Christian Values – teacher
Tuesday	Whole School 8.40 – 9am	
Wednesday	Whole School 8.40 – 9am	Reverend Andy
Thursday	Whole School 8.40 – 9am	
Friday	Whole School 8:40 – 9am	Celebration Assembly - Head

### **Guidelines for Collective Worship**

There will be a programme of themes to follow

The following are ways in which the Aims and Objectives of the Collective Worship Policy can be met.

The children will be asked to arrive for assembly in a quiet manner

The children will be smart with shirts tucked in.

Music will be played

The focal point will be central to the assembly