



## **Bolham Primary School**

### **Collective Worship Policy**

## **Introduction**

At Bolham Primary School we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. It is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of school life to support our curriculum and to provide an opportunity for stillness and reflection in what is often a very busy, active day for our children.

## **Aims**

The central aims of Collective Worship at Bolham Primary School are to:

- provide our children with regular opportunities for stillness and reflection
- promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the gifts and talents of our children.
- help children develop an understanding both of the nature and language of worship
- help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others
- support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.

## **The Legal Position**

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils. Furthermore, acts of worship "must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief." At Bolham Primary School we have developed a range of themes and topics through which collective worship takes place. Key themes include love, joy, trust, forgiveness, justice and the value of all human life. We believe these themes are clearly Christian in nature, but are universal in their application. We recognise that in our school we have children from a variety of faith backgrounds and that many children have no religious background at all. Great care is taken in our Collective Worship to ensure that all children feel valued and special and that their integrity as human beings is consistently upheld. During prayers pupils are invited to put their hands together and close their eyes, or just sit quietly and respect the rights of others to pray if they wish to do so. Collective Worship at Bolham Primary School is an inclusive activity. Parents do have, of course, the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly encouraged to contact the Headteacher.

### **Context of Collective worship**

In order to promote children's learning, our acts of worship vary in size. Our pattern is set out below:

Monday	-	Whole school (introduction of special theme for week )
Tuesday	-	Class-based or Key Stage worship on theme
Wednesday	-	Class-based or Key Stage worship on theme
Thursday	-	Theme developed through music
Friday	-	Whole school (celebration / conclusion of theme involving pupil's work and outside speakers)

Community Worship – each term our classes take turns to share their learning. Parents, grandparents, relatives and friends are invited to share pupil's learning and to celebrate their achievements. A record is kept of any comments visitors make following their attendance.

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and we encourage people to contribute to acts of worship. We record our acts of worship to inform our learning and plan for further developments. We are developing a range of resources to enhance children's learning. These include stories, music, slides, poems, pictures and posters all of which we hope contribute to a stimulating and thoughtful time for our children.

### **Conclusion**

Collective Worship plays a very important role in our school as we seek to develop our children in the skills of reflection and empathy, to encourage and celebrate their talents and to promote their spiritual and moral development.