

Collective Worship Policy

Approved by Full Governors

Collective Worship Policy

Working together in the community for achievement, enjoyment and well-being

The policy is formed in the belief that school worship should be a celebration and affirmation of the values and ethos of the school.

The School Ethos Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

It is within the opportunities for worship presented during assemblies that we acknowledge the infinitely larger world we inhabit and where we are touched, however fleetingly, by its mystery and wonder.

School Worship:

- Is one of the means by which Christian values and principles may be reflected and affirmed.
- Provides an opportunity for the spirituality of children and adults in school to find expression and development.
- Provides opportunity to consider spiritual and moral issues.
- Provides opportunity for pupils and adults to respond to the worship offered.
- Develops a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values for pupils and adults.

We aim to provide genuine opportunities for pausing, for reflections and for sharing. Through based on the Anglican foundation of the school, we aim to provide worship which is accessible for and respectful towards the variety of faiths and beliefs represented in our community.

All pupils are welcomed in all assemblies and services, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children.

The Anglican Heritage *The school has close links with St Peter's Church, Ipsley and Worcester Diocese. Worship in Ipsley should reflect some of the essential features within the rich traditions of Anglican prayer and worship.*

Some of the important areas to be explored are:

- Using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning.
- Reflecting on Christian symbols and their use in worship.
- Observing the cycle of the Anglican year.
- Special services.
- Using set, traditional and contemporary prayers and responses.

- Using traditional and contemporary hymns and Christian songs and music.
- Providing opportunities to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of worship.
- Recognising the commitment to ecumenism.
- Experiencing the bond of community which encompasses gender, age, race and religious opinion.
- Clergy and other Christian leaders leading worship.

Arrangements for worship *make recognition of the differing needs of various age groups, but also enhance the importance of worship as a whole-school community activity, for children and adults. Each day there is a half school assembly, Year Group assembly or Class Group assembly for every child and adult in school. It is expected that all members of the teaching staff and teaching assistants attend assemblies.*

Ipsley offers a daily act of collective worship.

A 4 Year plan of assembly themes is in operation.

Mrs Bishop is Worship Leader and the member of staff responsible for the overall organisation of assemblies and collective worship in school; preparing and supporting staff in leading worship.

Mrs Bishop and the School Leadership Team monitor and evaluate the contribution of school worship.

Clergy and other Christian Leaders in the parish or the wider church are encouraged to lead and participate in school worship.

Festivals of Christmas, Easter and Harvest are marked by special services in school.

Worship for the wider school community, including parents, is offered at Christmas.

The school Policy on Collective Worship is in general accord with the Diocesan policy on worship in voluntary schools.