

**Twiss Green**

**Community Primary School**

**Collective Worship Policy**

**September 2021**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of Approval: | 8th September 2021 |
| Signed: Chair of Governing Body |  |
| Signed: Acting Head Teacher | **Katy Fuller** |
| To be reviewed by: | September 2022 |

**Introduction**

All maintained schools are required to organise an act of daily collective worship for registered pupils in order to promote their moral, spiritual and cultural development. Collective worship must be ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’, though not representative of a particular Christian denomination. Twiss Green Community Primary School is sensitive to the individual beliefs and faiths of all members of the school and recognises different types of religious faiths and beliefs. All pupils are encouraged to learn about the beliefs of others in addition to their own as part of religious education within the curriculum. Collective worship which is provided in a daily whole-school assembly is a time for the whole school to reflect on spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues.

**Intent**

In the context of worship in school, the aim is to provide experiences which deepen the inner senses and engender feelings of self-worth and the uniqueness of the individual. Giving pupils a purpose and meaning to life, awe and wonder of the natural world, reverence and respect and a sense of belonging to the community.

At Twiss Green our aim is to create an atmosphere in which genuine worship may take place and where pupils’ own beliefs are valued and each one has the opportunity to respond in their own way. Children will be encouraged to reflect on the ways in which worship affects the values, attitudes and spiritual dimensions of themselves, the learning community and society. It is a celebration and a time for reflecting on things that have worth and meaning to the community.Through our collective worship we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for children to:

* Consider spiritual and moral issues and explore their own beliefs.
* Explore and review the variety of values, attitudes, standards, manifested in society, including British Values.
* Show interest in, and concern for, members of the school community and to develop the spirit of helping others.
* Experience a peaceful environment enabling stillness, prayer and reflection.
* Develop a spirit of community and an understanding of the feelings of people with different beliefs.
* Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person’s life stance, whether religious or not.
* Understand our school’s common ethos and shared values including the rights within the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).
* Reinforce and explore Twiss Green’s positive attitudes and values through the Jigsaw weekly assemblies.
* Deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them and to explore the world in which we live.
* Celebrate achievements, special occasions and special events in relation to individual pupils within school, to the school as a whole, or to the wider community.

**Implementation**

Twiss Green Community Primary School aims to promote rich and meaningful experiences of collective worship that are appropriate to the pupil’s needs, age and interests by:

* Presenting displays that promote and enhance spiritual ideas and thoughts.
* Encouraging pupils to reflect and contemplate on their own thoughts, feelings and beliefs.
* Using devotional, artefacts, secular stories, resources, music, art, drama and speakers to engage children’s interest.
* Involving pupils in different experiences of worship, e.g. silence, prayer, rituals, shared or written prayers, etc.

**Central attributes of collective worship**

Central attributes of collective worship at Twiss Green Community Primary School involve:

* Gathering – making this part of the day significant and special through an appropriate ceremony and high behavioural expectations.
* Engaging – using a variety of available techniques to engage pupils and stimulate interest.
* Responding – making sure that there is opportunity and time for all individuals to think and reflect.

**Organisation**

The whole school meets together daily for 15 minutes in the school hall (with the exception of occasional Wednesdays when separate KS1 and KS2 assemblies may be held. The Headteacher and Management team lead most assemblies, with a rota of other teachers leading Celebration assemblies on a Friday. We believe that creating the right atmosphere is crucial to the quality of collective worship and so we combine the involvement and enjoyment of all pupils with high behavioural expectations during this special time.

**Planning**

* At Twiss Green, we combine our collective worship with assembly, helping to ensure that worship takes place within a broad educational framework.The headteacher is responsible for creating the agenda for collective worship in discussion with the governing body and the PSHE and RE subject leaders.
* Assemblies will have a specific focus e.g. Celebration Assembly, Music Celebration, Jigsaw Assembly, Rights Respecting Schools Assembly, RE Assembly, Sunshine Assembly or Picture News Assembly.
* The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to pupils of all ages and backgrounds.
* A timetable for collective worship is created and shared to ensure that progression from each session is carried on to the next, and learning is practically applied by pupils to life in and out of school.
* Visitors or guest speakers may sometimes be invited to speak or perform in line with the theme. However, they must not enforce a certain belief or way of thinking and must also be sure that they comply with the collective worship policy.

**Right of withdrawal**

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship without stating a reason for doing so. However, they are encouraged to discuss their decision with the headteacher and the following, particularly in regards to:

* The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the child taking part.
* The practical implications of withdrawal.
* Whether the parent will require advance notice of such worship, and if so, how much.

**Children with SEND**

Twiss Green Community Primary School will take into account pupils of different ages and abilities when organising a collective worship programme, and will ensure that content is thought-provoking for every pupil, regardless of their academic ability. Additional support and adjustments will be arranged for individual pupils if the need arises.

**Impact**

Monitoring and evaluation is undertaken by pupils, staff and governors. Pupils are involved in evaluation of collective worship via feedback from questionnaires and class discussions. All leaders should contribute to the ongoing monitoring and evaluation of collective worship in order to improve its impact on children.

**Approved by:**

**Headteacher:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Date:** 12th September 2021

**Chair of Governors:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Next review date:**