



## **WEAVERTHORPE C of E (V C) PRIMARY SCHOOL COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

### **AIMS**

At Weaverthorpe School we recognise the importance of providing opportunities for pupils to:

- have quiet, individual reflection on spiritual issues
- develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness
- develop capacities and skills which will enable them to explore more fully their own feelings and experiences and those of others
- learn the skills of living together harmoniously within a community
- learn a moral code in keeping with the Christian nature of the school's foundation
- worship God
- reflect on Christian values
- reflect on their own faith development
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- respond to the worship offered.

We also aim to establish an integral partnership between the content and conduct of school worship and the ethos of the school.

### **STATUTORY DUTY OF SCHOOL**

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). Every pupil is entitled to a daily Act of Collective Worship. It is the legal right of parents/guardians to withdraw their children from acts of worship. The headteacher will discuss the needs of individual pupils with parents who are considering withdrawing the child(ren) from acts of collective worship. Whilst fully complying with the law, the school is sensitive to the fact that not all pupils come from religious families.

At Weaverthorpe School both staff and pupils share together in worship in order to support the promotion of Christian values thus developing a whole school ethos. This daily collective worship may take the form of morning prayers, assembly, grace before mid-day meals and/or afternoon prayers. On some occasions collective worship will be services or at St. Andrew's Church or the Methodist Chapel. Collective worship at Weaverthorpe is based on the principles and practices of the Church of England. The organisation and planning of acts of worship will reflect the broad traditions of the C of E, which will underpin whole school, and smaller group acts of worship. Close links exist between the school and the local Methodist and Anglican churches.

A brief outline of the plans for collective worship for each term will be available to all parents on request. The whole school attends St. Andrew's C of E Church, Weaverthorpe, for an act of worship at least twice a year, for example at Easter and at the end of the school year.

### **CONTENT**

Each week, Collective Worship is based upon an identified Christian Value from the school's rolling programme. All pupils from Y1 to 6 attend. On occasions, pupils are invited to plan, prepare & deliver collective worship.

Assemblies are lead regularly by representatives from the Methodist church & church of England school staff also lead assemblies. Please see roata in staffroom for details.

Each day prayers are said in classrooms and grace is said before lunch. This constitutes an act of collective worship as well as during whole school assembly times.

Each Friday there is an act of worship to conclude the Celebration Assembly. The school also celebrates the effort and achievement of individual pupils and demonstrates this in the giving of certificates.

Opportunities are taken to make links with current or world affairs in order to heighten our pupils' awareness of their role in humankind. The school is involved in charity appeals when appropriate.

### **ORGANISATION**

Acts of collective worship are the responsibility of the Worship co-ordinator (currently the headteacher) who sets out a rota for each term in agreement with class teachers. Acts of collective worship are established as such and when information in the form of notices needs to be given out, this is done at the end of the act of collective worship – sometimes signalled by the blowing out of candles. Pupils may be involved in acts of collective worship by contributing readings, role play or prayers as appropriate. Music, artefacts and candles are used to enhance the worship and foster a calm and reflective atmosphere. Leaders of collective worship encourage positive and well-mannered contributions from pupils. Pupils are expected to sit quietly, listen to music and reflect silently during pauses. Pupils are also expected to exit quietly from the room and are supervised by their class teachers.

### **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

As part of the school's Self-Evaluation practice, collective worship will be monitored each term from the Summer Term 2013.

### **ROLE OF THE HEADTEACHER**

The Governing Body delegates to the headteacher the responsibility for ensuring daily collective worship.

### **REVIEW**

The school Collective Worship Policy is in accord with the York Diocesan guidelines. This policy will be reviewed every three years. Modifications will be made in the light of experience and guidance received.

Date reviewed (S): Summer 2013

Date of next review (G): Autumn 2013