Dormers Wells Junior School
Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at Dormers Wells Junior School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’, and in recognition of the fact that the majority of our pupils are practising members of other faiths we have received a determination from SACRE that permits us to adapt our collective worship to embrace all other faiths.

The Collective Worship Policy of Dormers Wells Junior School is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school website. Assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

Definition of Collective Worship
Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship For the School
Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Dormers Wells Junior School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:
- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils
We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a ‘whole’ person by providing opportunities to
- worship God as defined by the individual’s faith
- reflect on that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reflect on the direction of their lives
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- consider the wonders and worries of the world

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum
Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Dormers Wells Junior School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the
Diversity - Opportunity - Respect - Moral Values - Empathy - Resilience - Success

experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice.

To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to ‘respond’ on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship
The RE coordinator will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship
Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom. Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, RE and PHSE lessons.

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship
The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Termly curriculum plans on the school website show themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with half termly planning and recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

The Act of Collective Worship
A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.
Withdrawal from Collective Worship
Certain faith group members such as Jehovah’s Witnesses may apply in writing to the Headteacher for their child to be withdrawn from acts of worship

Policy reviewed January 2018
Next review January 2019