

Ysgol Babanod Ladywell Green Infant School

Collective Worship Policy

Adopted on: 30.1.18

Headteacher:

Chair of Governors:

Review Date:

**Policy for Collective Worship**

**Legal Requirement**

There is a legal requirement for schools to provide collective worship daily for all pupils, which are wholly or mainly of broadly Christian character. There is no legal to provide collective worship for pupil aged under five.

**Definition of Collective Worship**

“It must in some sense reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities and it should be concerned with reverence and veneration paid to a divine being or power.”

Welsh Office Circular 10/94

**Aims of Collective Worship**

“Collective Worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils

* to worship God, to consider the spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs;
* to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to, watching and joining in the worship offered;
* and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos an shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.” Welsh Office Circular 10/94

Collective worship in Ladywell Green Infant School aims to provide the opportunity for pupils and staff to:

* experience a variety of styles of worship
* celebrate together e.g. festivals, school values, individual achievements
* build a sense of community/foster corporate identity;
* develop a reflective approach to living which sometimes encourages understanding of and invitation
* to prayer;
* look beyond the physical, material and measurable
* worship God or reflect on human values;
* consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs;
* participate and respond, through age appropriate active involvement in worship, including leading worship
* feel safe and affirmed in doing any of the above

In Ladywell Green Infant School, we work to fulfil these aims at an age appropriate level, and in doing so acknowledge the following:

* parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship, and they do not have to provide reasons. Pupils must be supervised during withdrawal;
* Staff have the right to withdraw from collective worship;
* an act of collective worship is distinct from an assembly and this should be made clear, though they may take place during the same gathering;
* there is no minimum or maximum time limit to collective worship;
* collective worship does not have to involve the whole school, but can be organised in a number of ways;
* pupils can help to lead the collective worship;
* collective worship can take a number of forms, for example:
* reflection – pupils can be encouraged to listen to, watch or reflect on a stimulus, such as a reading, dance, video, song, music, artefact photo, question, news article
* prayer – pupils may be encouraged to say a prayer aloud together or to pray individually in silence
* song – pupils may be encouraged to sing a hymn or other worship song together

**Collective Worship in our school**

Collective Worship takes place as a whole school for four days a week, and as a class for one day a week. The gatherings have a clear focus to them, such as weekly celebrations, aspects linked to religious festivals, or a focus on developing social and moral understanding through story. Each gathering has a distinct element of worship, and this is made clear e.g. through the use of candles, moments of quiet/reflection.

All members of staff may lead collective worship at different times, though the main responsibility for organising and ensuring it takes place lies with the headteacher, or in their absence the assistant headteacher.

**Visitors**

Visiting ministers and lay preachers from the local community are welcomed to school. They are aware of the requirements of collective worship, and fulfil these. Appropriate measures are in places to ensure safeguarding of pupils.