



Burford Primary School  
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*'Respect, Aspire, Achieve'*

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

### 1.0 Introduction

Burford Primary School is an academy within the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust. In accordance with the 1944 Education Act, 1988 Education Reform Act and as reiterated in the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act, schools, including academy schools, must provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils, to promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, though not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

### 2.0 Purpose of Collective Worship

At Burford Primary School we believe that collective worship both supports and strengthens all aspects of school life. We value this special time in the school day for the space it provides for pupils to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections. Additionally, it is a time when school comes together to celebrate shared beliefs, values and successes and can relate to the day to day life, aspirations and concerns of the school.

### 3.0 Aims

The Head Teacher, in consultation with the Governing Body, is responsible for Collective Worship arrangements and aims to provide Collective Worship that is inclusive, participative, challenging and educational. It is an opportunity for pupils to consider 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 and joining in the worship offered; to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

In addition, we aim to:

- provide a caring and supporting environment for pupils to develop spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually
- promote a common ethos with shared values that contribute to individual, school and wider community achievement within the context of collective worship
- develop in pupils a sense of community, within school, the local community and beyond
- reinforce positive attitudes and respect
- celebrate differences and similarities and to encourage respect for cultures different from our own
- provide opportunities to reflect on the significance of Christianity and that of other faiths through stories, events and festivals and appreciate how these might affect their lives
- encourage pupils to think and to question, and to develop a moral code
- create an atmosphere where worship and reflection can take place
- offer experiences and opportunities for pupils to join in with and respond to a variety of forms of Collective Worship, in order for them to reflect on the significance of their own beliefs and those of others.

#### 4.0 Organisation of Collective Worship

At Burford Primary School, we hold daily Collective Worship (see table below), which is usually whole school, although it can take place within classes<sup>1</sup>. Collective Worship can also take place at any time during the school day<sup>2</sup> and be led by any member of staff, pupil(s) (supervised by a member of staff) or visitor, in consultation with the Head Teacher, ensuring it is consistent with the purpose of Collective Worship in our school, current safeguarding requirements and adheres to the school's Visitor Policy, as appropriate.

<b>Day</b>	<b>Person Leading</b>
Monday	Head Teacher/Member of Staff/Pupil(s)/Visitor
Tuesday	Head Teacher/Member of Staff/Pupil(s)/Visitor
Wednesday	Vicar/Curate/Youth Worker/Team from Burford Church ['Open the Book'] or Head Teacher/Member of Staff/Pupil(s) /Visitor
Thursday	Head Teacher/Member of Staff/Pupil(s)/Visitor [Gold Book' Celebration/Achiever Awards (alternate weeks)]
Friday	Member of Staff/Pupil(s)/Visitor

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<sup>1</sup> 1988 Education Reform Act

<sup>2</sup> The Department for Education Circular 1/94

## **5.0 Right of Withdrawal**

At Burford Primary School, we seek to be an inclusive community and expect that all pupils attend daily Collective Worship. However, we respect the right of a parent(s) to withdraw their child(ren), as established in the 1944 Education Act and re-enacted in the 1988 Education reform Act. This school expects that withdrawal from Collective Worship will only be made following parental discussion with the Head Teacher, then confirmed in writing, clarifying whether it is from all or some specific acts of Collective Worship.

Whilst the school remains responsible for the supervision of child(ren) withdrawn by the parent(s) from Collective Worship, no work is set during this time or teaching provided.

All teachers, including the Head Teacher, have the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship, but the Head Teacher, should he or she wish to exercise this right, must maintain statutory accountability for Collective Worship.

## **6.0 Monitoring and Review**

Governors monitor Collective Worship as part of their routine monitoring schedule and aim to respond to pupils' feedback regarding Collective Worship when reviewing this policy which will be at least every two years.

**Signed: Zoey Khan, Chair of Governors**

**Signed: Jenny Dyer, Head Teacher**

**Dated:** 10 December 2018

**Review date:** December 2020