

HITHERFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE



Collective Worship/Assembly Policy

Our Vision Statement

'Our vision is to create a school community where everyone feels valued, has the opportunity to explore and develop their strengths and is able to participate in new experiences. We aim to become an inspirational school to produce good citizens for the future in an atmosphere that promotes confidence, high academic achievement, physical health and emotional well being.'

Document Control

Change Record

		No Previous Document
06/05/26	LAPD	To reflect current practice

Distribution

Reviewers	Approvers	Distribution
LAPD Committee	Full Governing Body	Whole school community

1.0 Introduction

This document provides guidance on Collective Worship/Assembly in schools in line with statutory requirements outlined in the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Education Act 1996. It reflects current non-statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE).

Collective Worship/Assembly is an integral part of school life and contributes to the development of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding.

2.0 Aim

1. To promote the personal development of pupils, including their character and social outlook.
2. To provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on values, beliefs and experiences.
3. To develop a sense of community, shared values and mutual respect across the school.

3.0 Objectives

1. To provide opportunities for pupils to explore spiritual and moral issues.
2. To encourage participation, reflection and response.
3. To promote positive attitudes such as respect, tolerance and responsibility.
4. To support pupils in developing their own beliefs and values.
5. To reinforce the school ethos and shared community values.

4.0 Legal Requirements

Collective Worship/Assembly must:

- Take place daily.
- Be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature (in schools without a designated religious character).
- Be appropriate to the age, aptitude and background of pupils.

Collective Worship/Assembly should:

- Provide opportunities to worship or reflect on what is considered of worth.
- Encourage participation through listening, discussion and reflection.
- Promote a sense of community and shared values.

5.0 Organisation of Collective Worship/Assembly

5.1 Location

- Collective Worship/Assembly generally takes place on school premises.
- It may occur in halls, classrooms or other suitable spaces.
- Pupils may be grouped by class, phase or key stage.

5.2 Delivery

At Hitherfield Primary School, Collective Worship/Assembly is delivered through:

- Executive Headteacher and Head of School assemblies
- Phase assemblies
- Class assemblies
- In-class assemblies
- Celebration assemblies
- Curriculum-linked activities

6.0 Content of Collective Worship/Assembly

Collective Worship/Assembly may include:

- Reflection on values such as honesty, kindness and empathy
- Celebration of achievements and special occasions
- Exploration of moral and social issues
- Development of awe and wonder about the world

Themes are often linked to:

- School values and rules
- British Values
- Equality, diversity and inclusion
- National and global events

7.0 Relationship with the Curriculum

Collective Worship/Assembly is distinct from Religious Education (RE), although links may be made where appropriate.

- RE is curriculum-based and educational.
- Collective Worship/Assembly focuses on reflection, values and shared experiences.

8.0 British Values

Collective Worship/Assembly supports the development of fundamental British Values:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect
- Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs

9.0 Inclusion and Withdrawal

- Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship/Assembly (fully or partially).
- Requests for withdrawal should be made via the school office or by email admin@hitherfield.co.uk.
- Alternative arrangements will be provided where appropriate.

10.0 Roles and Responsibilities

- The Executive Headteacher and Governing Body share responsibility for ensuring appropriate provision.
- Staff are responsible for planning and delivering meaningful acts of Collective Worship/Assembly.

11.0 Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship/Assembly is monitored through:

- Staff feedback
- Pupil engagement and participation
- Review of assembly content and themes

12.0 Example Themes

Executive Headteacher and Head of School Assemblies

- Start of the academic year – new beginnings
- Black History month
- Christmas, Easter, Eid and other main religious celebrations
- Inspirational people
- Anti-bullying
- Online safety
- Neurodiversity
- Moving on (eg to secondary school)
- What is happening in the world (we use the votes for school website for this)

Celebration Assemblies

Weekly recognition of:

- Achievement and effort
- Attendance and punctuality
- Positive behaviour
- School values in action