



Collective Worship Policy

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0.1	SLT	5-10-2016	Pre-Edited Document
1.0	DMO	7-10-2016	N/A

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Aldridge School An Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, students and volunteers to share in this commitment.

The Collective Worship Policy

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

The Collective Worship Policy of Aldridge School is consonant with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus.

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 Aldridge 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 (SEAL) as a 'whole' person, by providing opportunities to:

- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Aldridge School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes and/or around school.

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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 should 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. (SEAL)

The Management of Collective Worship

The Senior Leadership Team and Guidance Leadership team, form the basis of the team who will 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 halls during House assemblies twice a week. There will be a specific calendar of references to religious festivals with key dates provided, alongside a set of themes for reflection – 'thoughts for the week'. Teachers can then identify the theme or festival and plan ahead for their assembly if it applies to them. It is recognized that there may be a secular theme for the assembly, but also then a moment of reflection or a reference to a religion or specific religious teaching to enable an atmosphere of personal and spiritual awareness. In the first instance reflection or reference to religion is based around Christianity as a priority but teachers and pupils can focus on any world faith if it suits the purpose.

Themes for Collective Worship)

Families	One world	Memories
Beginnings and endings	All you need is love	Light and darkness
Happy and sad	Achievement	Thank you for the music
Gifts and giving	Suffering	Promises
Forgiveness	Looking back/forward	Friends
Peace	People who help us	Neighbours
Growth	Courage and bravery	Creation
Celebration	Books	Prayer
All things new	Moving on	Thankfulness
Choices and decisions	Communication	

Key Christian Festivals including:

key restivals from cultures and religions including

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- Advent
- Christmas
- Harvest
- Easter
- Hanukah
- Chinese New Year
- Eid ul Fitr
- Diali
- Ramadan
- Ascension
- Epiphany
- Whitsuntide
- Shrove Tuesday
- Ash Wednesday

Leadership

Any member of staff can be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year. There will also be a pause for reflection amongst staff with a 'thought for the week' written into the weekly staff news bulletin. This will also correspond to appropriate religious dates on the calendar, with Christianity being the main element of this requirement. Form tutors will also refer to two 'thoughts for the week' with their pupils and again, this will provide a moment of reflection and enable pupils to consider emotional and spiritual needs, explore their own beliefs and reinforce positive attitudes. (See worship planner)

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.

The worship planner sheet must demonstrate special occasions and events, but will need to be flexible enough to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. These will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Visitors and Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to particular communities. This may be done in Religious Studies lessons to encourage a smaller less formal setting.

The Act of Collective Worship

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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.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (A change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc)

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Head teacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

WORSHIP PLANNER / RECORD SHEET

Focus / Theme

Leader / Class / Group

Date / Time

Aim(s) linked to school policy

Learning Opportunities (including for example, opportunities to think about, listen to, reflect on, respond to)

Resources

Comments / Evaluation

KLouza/09

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