



## **Downsway Primary School COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

### **The Law and Collective Worship**

The Education Act 1988 and DFE Circular 1/94 requires that collective worship should be daily, provided for all children unless they have been withdrawn by their parents.

Collective worship must be non-denominational and must take place on school premises. Over a period of a term, the majority of acts of collective worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character'.

### **Right of Withdrawal**

At Downsway School, we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents/carers to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. The school expects that withdrawal will only be made following written confirmation of withdrawal, however, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the Headteacher, have the right of withdrawal but the Headteacher, should he or she wish to exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship. This right of withdrawal does not extend to assemblies.

### **Aims**

The aim of this policy is to ensure collective worship contributes to the social, moral, spiritual and cultural education of pupils. All acts of collective worship provide opportunities to worship, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore personal beliefs both individually and corporately. Collective worship is also seen as an opportunity to foster a sense of community, values, identity and self-esteem and to celebrate individual and corporate achievements.

### **Organisation of collective worship**

The organisation of collective worship is the responsibility of the Headteacher, after consultation with the Governing Board. When planning, appropriate themes will be used e.g. festivals, local or national events, friendship, the environment and a variety of methods, including music, poetry, drama, visual aids and visiting speakers including clergy from local churches.

### **Assemblies**

Our assemblies are based around 12 themes from the Living Values Education. Through our range of assemblies and PHSE lessons, by the end of the term, children and staff will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints.

The following themes are those we intend to follow:-

Respect	Responsibility	Tolerance	Peace
Thoughtfulness	Friendship	Hope	Patience
Appreciation	Honesty	Trust	Co-operation

Date approved by the Governing Board:

**January 2019**

Date of next review:

**January 2022**