

Spires Federation

Policy

OPENING
DOORS



OPENING
MINDS

Collective Worship

Policy

Date : March 2022

Review Date: March 2025

To provide an aspirational education which inspires all in our community so that they are happy, confident, and equipped for life in all its fullness.

Our Core Christian Values are: Success, Happiness, Inspiration, Nurture and Everyone.



Where every member of the Spires community is given the opportunity to

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Success – All members of the Spires Federation aspire to success- for each other and for themselves. We value individuality and respect equality and diversity.

Philippians 4:13- 'I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength.'

Happiness- At the Spires Federation, we believe that children learn best when they are happy and secure. Staff teach best when they are happy and fulfilled in their work. As well as trusting God, we have to create a culture where our schools are happy and harmonious for all.

The psalmist says: 'You make known to me the path of life, you will fill me with joy in your presence.' (Psalm 16 v 11)

Inspiration- We want to provide everyone with the opportunity of exploring the world through our broad and balanced curriculum and to raise the aspirations of both pupils and staff.

Proverbs 18:15 – ‘Wise men and women are always learning, always listening for fresh insights.’

Nurture – The culture of the Spires Federation is that of a supportive, protective family that has high aspirations for all of its members.

Proverbs 22:6 – ‘Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.’

Everybody – The Bible describes how Christians come together as a family. The members of our school family – pupils, parents, staff and Governors are interdependent: all are needed and valued and each person is important to the whole. We are working together to ensure all feel included, valued and bring benefit to the wider communities that we serve.

Corinthians 12:24-26- But God has combined the members of the body...so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.

Mission

To enable all of our pupils to become:

- successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve their full potential;
- confident individuals who are able to live safe, healthy and fulfilling lives with a respectful understanding of Christian values;
- responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

Our Aims

- We will offer an excellent ‘small village school’ environment whilst maintaining sufficient pupil numbers to fund the resources needed to achieve excellence in teaching.
- We believe that every pupil is unique in the sight of God. As Church of England Schools we aim to create an atmosphere of serving Christ in others and to provide a Christian environment for every pupil, including opportunities to worship together and with our local community. At the same time, we will play an important role in the local Christian community whilst ensuring that all faiths are also valued and understood.
- We will work together, through Federation and Collaborative Partnership, sharing facilities, resources and expertise, to help improve all schools in the Partnership and safeguard the future of small schools in the area.

Entitlement and Statutory Requirement

Collective Worship

The act of Collective Worship in our schools will be broadly Christian in character but will also allow for a range of beliefs.

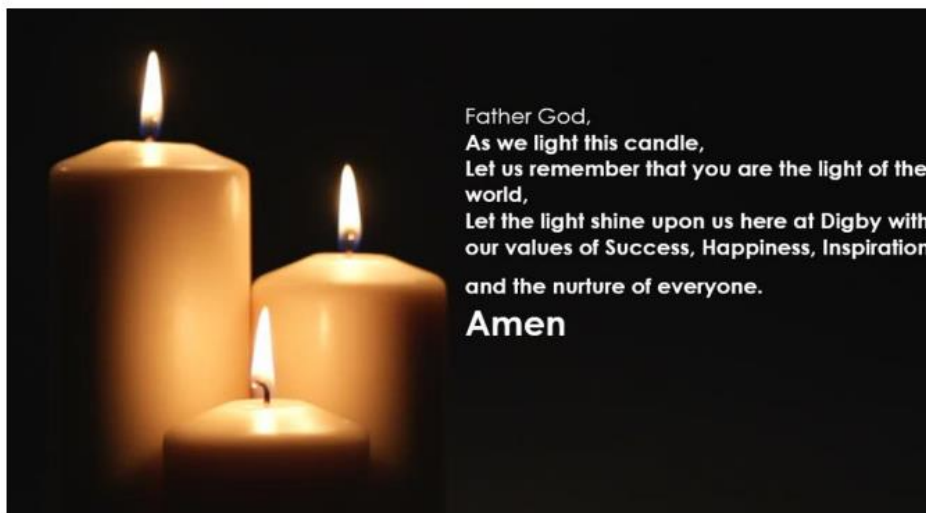
Children will be engaged in whole school Collective Worship on three days of the week and in class Collective Worship on one day. In addition there will be a weekly hymn practice.

Parents must write to the Headteacher if their child is not to participate in Collective Worship.

Nature and Purpose of Collective Worship

Our schools' Collective Worship derives from the Christian tradition. We aim to reflect our schools' Anglican foundation. Collective Worship enables staff and pupils to come together as a community. It is a special time of the day for celebration, prayer and reflection and one which enables everyone to develop their spiritual dimension, knowledge, experience and imaginative understanding.

The beginning of Collective Worship is always marked by the lighting of a candle and the saying together of the following liturgy:



A range of symbols will be used as a focal point including the candle, cloth, table and cross. Time will be provided during worship for silence and reflection.

All of the leaders of worship will encourage interaction and pupil involvement in all aspects of the worship itself.

Music will play an important part in Collective Worship. It enables everyone to enjoy, reflect upon and appreciate a range of music. Worship will include the singing of hymns and songs.

We take the themes of our Collective Worship from the traditions of the Christian faith. We observe the festivals and mark the events of the Christian calendar. We also reflect on our values Success, Happiness, Inspiration, Nurture and Everyone and carefully incorporate these into our worships and Celebration Assemblies.

Collective Worship encourages pupils to develop core values in order to interact responsibly with the world and society and have an awareness of the needs of others.

Implementation

Collective Worship will be carried out in whole school assemblies or in class groups. This will normally involve three whole school assemblies, one whole school hymn practice and one class assembly. The rector at Dunston and the local Methodist Minister (at both schools) will also lead worship on a regular basis. The Bishop's Visitors will lead worship every term.

The pupils will worship in the local church (St. Thomas' at Digby and St. Peter's at Dunston) at least six times per year, including at Christmas, Easter and at the end of the school year.

Staff who lead worship will follow the agreed weekly themes but will also take the opportunity to respond to events that impact on the school or wider community.

Pupils, alongside adults, will have opportunities to offer their own prayers or contribute to prayers on a regular basis.

Collective Worship will provide opportunities for everyone, pupils and adults, to take a lead or participate.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The views of participants in worship will be collected formally by staff and governors on an annual basis to evaluate the quality and impact of Collective Worship.

The headteacher will report annually to the Governors' Achievements and Standards Committee on the impact of Collective Worship