



Willow Dene
SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Reviewed policy agreed by GB on:	Summer 2021
Reviewed policy shared with staff on:	Summer 2021
Policy to be reviewed again on:	Summer 2024
Committee responsible for review:	Policy Committee

Collective Worship policy

Rationale

At Willow Dene we are thoroughly committed to providing relevant and meaningful opportunities for learning across the curriculum. We are required by the Education reform Act 1988 to provide for an act of collective worship. The nature of this, at Willow Dene, will reflect our children's cognitive, emotional and social levels of development. We will respect the right of parents to withdraw their child, but this is unlikely to be necessary because we will ensure that the experience for our children is meaningful and reflective of our child-focused ethos of inclusivity. Collective Worship will be a personalised experience for every child, look different for every class, and have a focus on the values that underpin all that we do. These values of respect, trust, forgiveness, positivity, co-operation, honesty, patience, freedom, thoughtfulness, happiness, courage and aspiration are fundamental to the Christian faith but also underpin the beliefs of most faith traditions. Nothing that we do will be denominational or doctrinaire.

Aims

Our aim is for children to develop

- a sense of their own worth,
- an awareness of the lives and achievements of others
- a sense of awe and wonder
- a spirit of calm contemplation
- a willingness to participate
- a sense of belonging and community

Equality

At Willow Dene we value every one of our children & staff. We celebrate diversity & are committed to countering all forms of discrimination (whether by individuals or systems), particularly those that result in inequalities & injustices. We will, through our acts of collective worship, foster an ethos of acceptance and justice. We will strive to ensure that all children feel valued and have a positive self-image. We believe that, in encouraging & nurturing the process of self-reflection we will enhance the learning potential in all of our children.

Content, planning and delivery

At Willow Dene we believe that Collective Worship is a shared responsibility. Each teacher will plan a time for quiet reflection at the end of each day. As every one of our classrooms is unique, the format of this will look and feel different in every class. All class timetables will feature a designated time which will provide an opportunity for collective sharing about the day's experiences, a celebration of achievement and a focus on the Willow Dene values.

Children from each phase group will also attend their Key Stage assembly (held weekly). Planning for this will be allocated to a senior member of staff who will co-ordinate its delivery.

On the EYFS timetable the weekly act of collective celebration is to be found under the heading 'sharing time'.

Children will be supported to view these times as unique to any other time during the day, when they will look, listen and reflect together as class or key stage community. Where appropriate, music will be used both as an auditory cue and to create an environment of calm. In some classrooms candles will be used to help children to focus their attention. The length of these special times will vary depending on the needs of the children.

Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation process for collective worship will be included in the overall cycle of learning walks and monitoring of planning files alongside that for other curriculum areas. The Policy will be reviewed every 3 years.

Related Documentation

Induction Policy
Equal Opportunities Policy
Race Equality Policy
Teaching and Learning Policy
School Development Plan
Willow Dene School vision and values