

**Review Date April 2026**

**Belmont CP School**  
**Collective Worship Policy**

**This policy should be read in conjunction with the**  
**Disability and Equality Strategy**

‘Collective Worship’ is a time when the whole school or groups within the school meet together to engage in relevant, meaningful experiences, providing opportunities for the pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

At Belmont Community Primary School, collective worship is set within the context of ‘Assemblies’ – which may include other features besides those required of collective worship.

Statute requires that we provide daily collective worship for our pupils. The aim of the collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on Christian and British values and on their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Respond to the worship offered

**Implementation**

Collective worship, whether in assembly or class time will:

- Be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- Include a variety of elements at different times
- Involve the pupils

Assemblies are conducted in a manner which is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school community. Assemblies are regarded as a special time in the day, provide periods of calm reflection and are conducted accordingly. Children are expected to behave respectfully and thoughtfully and are asked to come in and leave assemblies in a quiet manner.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from Religious Education (RE) and collective worship. If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending any RE or collective worship at the school the school will comply unless the request is withdrawn.

The school remains responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn from RE or collective worship, unless the child is lawfully receiving RE or taking part in collective worship elsewhere.

Parents do not need to explain their reasons for seeking withdrawal. Upon receiving such a request, the Headteacher will clarify with parent(s)/carer(s):

- The religious issues about which the parent would object their child being taught
- The practical implications of withdrawal
- The circumstances in which it would be reasonable to accommodate parents wishes
- If a parent will require any advanced notice of such issue in the future and if so, how much

The school will always endeavour to take into account the faiths and beliefs of all those within the school community. For staff members of different faiths attendance at collective worship should be discussed with the Headteacher.

Our collective worship is also designed to help ensure children become valuable and fully rounded members of society who treat others with respect and tolerance, regardless of background.

Within our curriculum and through collective worship we promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs.

A range of learning opportunities across the curriculum including collective worship are taken by all staff to promote the importance of equality.

It is our aim that the children we work with understand the importance of respect and leave the school fully prepared for life in modern Britain.

Examples of the understanding and knowledge that we explore with pupils during collective worship and across the curriculum more widely are:


- an understanding of how citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- an understanding that the freedom to hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- an acceptance that people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- an understanding of the importance of identifying and combatting discrimination
- an understanding of all protected characteristics not just religious beliefs.

We support and promote British values through:

- using Picture News whole school and class assemblies with a weekly focus on a specific British value.
- including in suitable parts of the curriculum - as appropriate for the age of pupils - material on the strengths, advantages and disadvantages of democracy, and how democracy and the law works in Britain, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries.
- ensuring all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to and demonstrate how democracy works by actively promoting democratic processes such as a Pupil Parliament whose Prime Minister and members are voted for by the pupils.
- using opportunities such as current affairs – both national and global to provide pupils with the opportunity to learn how to argue and defend points of view.
- ensuring that we offer a wide and rich learning experience both in and beyond the classroom that encourages the active involvement of pupils and promotes fundamental British values.

The school will review this policy regularly and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

The Headteacher is responsible (under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils.

Ratified by governors at their meeting on	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Signed	
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