

Collective Worship Policy



Consultation that has taken place: This draft policy has been developed by the LMT, staff and Governors

How the policy will be disseminated to the school's community: The policy is available via the school website. Contents will be shared with staff in staff meetings.

Date Policy Formally Approved By Governors: January 2015

Date Policy Becomes Effective: January 2015

Review Date(s): January 2017

Person(s) responsible for Implementation and Monitoring: Headteacher, Governors

Links to other relevant documents:

1 Vision

Kea School pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is very good. Collective worship makes a significant contribution to this development and to pupils' strong sense of being part of a community rooted in strong, shared values.

2 Rationale

Kea School is a Community school. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community. It is attended by pupils, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

At Kea school we recognise that Collective Worship should provide opportunities for our students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

3. Aims

It is our aim at Kea School that worship should:

- contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child,
- support the social and emotional development of our pupils through making use of the SEAL programme,
- give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community,
- allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings,
- celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals,
- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others,
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to praise and reach out to God; to experience stillness and quiet; to have the opportunity respond to religious language and symbolism and to experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others or quiet reflection,
- help students to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship,
- provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future.

4. Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that 'all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship'. We seek to do our best to keep the spirit of this legislation seeking to provide as many high quality acts of worship as is practically possible.

To provide pupils with variety in their experience of worship acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all pupils or separate acts of worship for pupils in different age groups or school groups. Collective Worship may be held at any time during the school day.

The responsibility for arranging school worship in our school rests with the headteacher and assembly co-ordinator.

All acts of worship are in accordance with the guidance issued in circular 1/94 which states that worship should be of a 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' and not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination. By broadly Christian in this school we mean that: -

- Worship contains some elements that accord special status to Jesus, his teachings and actions, e.g. The Sermon on the Mount.
- Sharing with students the Christian belief that all Christians are called to continue Jesus' work of love and compassion for their fellow human beings through the exploration of key Christian concepts such as love, trust, forgiveness, mercy, humility, courage and integrity, respect for life, value of an individual, justice, co-operation and service, honesty and truthfulness.

Acts of Collective Worship at Kea School take into account the pupils' ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

The headteacher and governors, on advice from the Worship co-ordinator, may apply for a determination from SACRE if there are a large number of pupils in the school from a particular non-Christian faith background.

The school recognises that there is a difference between Acts of Collective Worship and the assembly of students. On some occasions assembly may proceed or follow and Act of Collective Worship. When this happens the transition from Assembly to worship will be marked in some suitable way e.g. the lighting of a candle or reflecting on an image on the whiteboard, moment of silences and reflection.

5. Rights of Withdrawal

At Kea School we seek to be an inclusive community; however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the headteacher/worship co-ordinator followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. The school has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. However, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the headteacher, have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship, but the headteacher, should he or she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship.

This right of withdrawal doesn't extend to assemblies.

6. Organisation

Collective worship runs between 10.25 and 10.40 daily, except for Thursdays when teachers lead class-based collective worship.

Day	Leader/Theme	Location
Monday	Headteacher (KS2) Teacher (KS1)	Hall/ Classroom
Tuesday	Music subject leader (singing)	Hall
Wednesday	Head/Visitor	Hall
Thursday	Class assemblies	Classrooms
Friday	Head: Celebration of Work	Hall

7. Visiting Leaders

Visitors regularly lead collective worship at Kea. These include ministers from Kea Church and Feock Methodist Churches as well as Christian workers. The Open the Book team from Kea church take assemblies fortnightly on Wednesdays. Religious leaders from other faiths are also invited to lead. Visitors lead collective worship in line with visitor policies.

8. Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation. The content and methodology of Collective Worship should be varied and there should be evidence of this in planning.

Each week there is a theme for Collective Worship. These are published at the beginning of the term. Those leading worship that week are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This will mean that by the end of the week the students will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints. Alternatively class teachers may develop their worship from themes and events that occur on the curriculum during the week. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that teachers may feel that they need to respond to local or national events.

One of the schools governors has a role monitoring Collective Worship at the school.

We seek to encourage pupils to voice their views on collective worship and to be a part of the evaluation process. The School Council seeks the views of their classmates and reports these findings to the staff and governors

9. Resources

Resources for worship are kept by the headteacher in the office. These include files of ideas, stories, poems and prayers, a candle and table cloth are kept above the piano. Matches are kept in the office drawer.