

**Stanton St Quintin Primary**  
**School**



**To Motivate Educate and Nurture**

# Stanton St Quintin Primary School

## **Collective Worship Policy**

Policy and Procedure: Collective Worship

Date Reviewed : September 21, approval November 21

Review date: September 23

## The Legal status of Collective Act of Worship

- In accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988, there will be collective Act of Worship daily at Stanton St Quintin Primary School.
- The majority of collective Acts of Worship each term will be “wholly of mainly of a broadly Christian character”, this is reflecting the “broad traditions of Christian belief” but they will be non-denominational.
- When considering the content of collective Acts of Worship, consideration will be given to the children’s ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.
- Each collective Act of Worship includes a period of reflection.
- It is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child from the collective Act of Worship, and that the teachers also have the right to withdraw.

## Statement of Aims

- The key aims of the school are published in the school’s prospectus. The following aims particularly relate to Collective Worship:
  - To respect and care for others within the school and the wider community
  - Seek to preserve the friendly, child-centred nature of the school
  - To respect all members of the school equally regardless of race, gender, disability or belief
  - Live in harmony with each other respecting the rules of society
  - To maintain a happy, fun-loving environment for the children to learn in
  - To provide a broad and balanced curriculum that caters for each child’s spiritual, intellectual, physical and moral development supported by a daily act of worship of a broadly Christian nature
  - To initiate opportunities for children to experience awe and wonder.
- We also aim to make a collective Act of Worship relevant to every day life
- Help children to become more sensitive to the wonders and mysteries of the world around them
- Help children to reflect on their own existence and the puzzling question which life poses
- Enable children to encounter commitment to particular leaders’ beliefs and causes
- Help children appreciate that people differ, and should be approached in a spirit of openness whatever their beliefs or culture
- Help children to develop a sense of community and an understanding of its importance
- Encourage children to encounter various kinds of language and symbols, and to express their own feelings through them

## General Principles

### Reflection, stillness, quiet and celebration

- Children at Stanton are encouraged to reflect on their behaviour in the light of the assemblies that take place. They are helped to understand that if they think carefully about the values that are being addressed their behaviour will become more positive and the quality of their learning enhanced.
- We give time for stillness and quiet reflection to help children take responsibility for their learning and behaviour. We use this in assemblies, in classrooms and with individual pupils.
- A candle is lit in assemblies to create a calm and thoughtful atmosphere. Music is played as children enter and leave the hall during whole school assemblies. Classes are expected to be punctual for assemblies, entering and leaving the hall in a calm and quiet manner.
- The daily Act of Worship occurs four times a week as a whole school assembly,

- Children are encouraged to take part in assemblies on a class and individual basis
- Assemblies are led by the Head Teacher, class teachers or invited guests
- The SEAL themes may be used as a basis for assemblies.
- Special days are celebrated, e.g. Saints Days, Commonwealth Day, Easter, Christmas
- Assemblies usually include one or more of the following
  - hymn/song
  - story
  - prayer/period of reflection
- Assemblies take place in the school hall. Class assemblies take place in classrooms
- The school visits St Giles Church for acts of worship, e.g. at Harvest, Christmas and Easter
- Please refer to current timetable for pattern of assemblies through the week

### **Responsibilities for Worship**

- The Executive Head Teacher, after consultation with the Governing Body, will ensure that the arrangements for the collective Act of Worship are carried out.

### **The Right to Withdraw**

- The governors of Stanton St Quintin Primary School recognise parents' right to withdraw their children from daily Acts of Collective Worship. Parents are invited to contact the Head Teacher if they wish to withdraw their child, so that the matter may be discussed and suitable arrangements made.

### **Resources**

- There is a wide selection of assembly and prayer books, artifacts and resources in the school. Please refer to the RE subject leader for location and availability.

### **Records**

- A brief record of the Act of Worship is kept. The following details are to be included:
  - theme
  - date
  - groupings, e.g. whole school KS1, KS2
  - content
  - leader
  - hymns/songs sung
  - music played while the children enter and leave the hall.
- NB. The hymns/songs may be selected by the Head Teacher, the adult leading the assembly to fit the theme for the week or by the children who organize assembly for that week.