

Burton Salmon Community Primary School

We aim to provide a rich, stimulating and enjoyable curriculum where children and adults work together in a happy, secure and caring environment in which each individual is respected and valued and all their achievements celebrated

Collective Worship Policy

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves members of the school coming together.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character we normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

While most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

Aims and purpose of Collect Worship are;

- to provide an opportunity for children to worship God;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes;

Organisation of collective worship

At Burton Salmon Community Primary School we hold a daily act of collective worship.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assemblies are a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes other objects to focus the attention of the children.

Our assemblies are normally led by the staff, but are sometimes led by local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups.

Throughout the school year there are regular assemblies that parents are invited to attend. Our Celebration Assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in this special time by sharing their work with the other children, and by raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assembly time provides an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are respected and valued, and all their individual achievements are recognised.

Governor's attendance at our assemblies is always welcome.

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assemblies. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during this time. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed at least every two years or earlier if appropriate.

(Signature) _____ (Head Teacher) _____ (date)

(Signature) _____ (Chair of Governors) _____ (date)