

Chacombe CEVA Primary Academy

Collective Worship Policy

Rationale

At Chacombe CEVA Primary Academy the act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate school life.

The contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values and Values Education

Our values are strongly rooted in Christian teaching and were chosen by staff, parents, Governors and children as being important to us as a school family. We believe that they support the 'whole child' leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group.

As a Church school we would hope that teachers who chose to work at Chacombe and parents who chose to send their child to Chacombe will join in our shared belief in the importance of collective worship. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher and make this request in writing, teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our worship includes:-

Response

Singing

Prayer

Reflection

Stories

Readings

Silence

We aim to involve the children in worship as much as possible and welcome visitors.

Worship normally lasts approximately 15-20 minutes.

Planning, Content and Detail

Worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music for the week. Music plays an important part of life and worship at Chacombe. The children enjoy listening to and singing a variety of music from a variety of genres during worship. A liturgical greeting, welcoming pupils, staff and visitors into God's presence is used to signal the beginning of the worship. Worship finishes with a prayer for which the candle is lit and a liturgical farewell. The children then lead out as the music is played.

Prayer

Prayer is an important part of the school day. All classes have their own class prayer which they write together and is displayed in the classroom and used regularly. The children say grace before lunch and a bidding prayer at the end of the day. The Lord's Prayer is said regularly in class and during worship. A prayer is also included on each newsletter and aims to be suitable for parents to share with their children at home.

Other Faiths

Worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values. We are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. Children learn about the faiths of others during Religious Education.

Planning, Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

Worship is planned carefully to ensure that there is opportunity for the children to learn about the Bible, about the Christian church calendar, Christian value, and how these help them to make good choices in life. Songs/hymns and prayers are chosen to accompany the worship.

Visits and visitors

As part of the curriculum, Chacombe School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship. Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge, their role is to educate and share experiences.

We visit St Peter and St Paul's Church every term Harvest, Christmas, Easter and for a Leavers' Services.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding. At each Key stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge, celebrate and support the religious beliefs of the children within the class.