Statement of intent

At Fourfields Community Primary School, we see the value in collective worship and adhere to our statutory duty by providing 20 minutes of collective worship a day. This time will enable pupils to explore their own beliefs and consider spiritual and moral issues.

The act of daily collective worship will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character; however, other faiths and cultures will be represented.

Collective worship provides the opportunity for the school to meet together in a variety of contexts and enables participating pupils and staff to consider events of the world and appreciate the rich tapestry of human experience and existence.

This policy outlines how our school implements collective worship within our daily routines, including the aims of collective worship and how pupils can be withdrawn.

Weekly collective worship programme

The school aims to deliver a varied collective worship programme to pupils. The current schedule is outlined in the table below:

Day of the week	Delivery of programme
Monday	A whole-school worship assembly is delivered by a member of the Senior Leadership Team
Tuesday	Two assemblies are delivered by class teachers on a rota basis to KS1 and KS2 separately. The themes for these assemblies are usually the same, though content will be differentiated appropriate to pupils' ages.
Wednesday	Class assemblies are delivered by the class teacher and follow the weekly theme or current affairs.
Thursday	Whole-school singing assembly is delivered by the music team, assisted by two other members of staff on a rota basis. Time for reflection is included at the end of singing assembly
Friday	A whole-school celebration assembly is delivered by the headteacher.

Songs and time for reflection will be a regular part of collective worship.

All topics covered will be suitable to the age of pupils participating in collective worship and will be inclusive for all needs.

Aims of collective worship

Collective worship aims to:

- Enable pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues, as well as explore their own beliefs.
- Encourage participation and response via active involvement or through listening and participating in the worship offered.
- Provide pupils with the opportunity to plan, lead or contribute to discussions on key themes and topics, e.g. morality.
- Provide a peaceful environment to enable stillness, prayer and reflection.
- Help pupils to develop an awareness of their community and the spirit of helping others.
- Develop a spirit of community and an understanding of individuals with other beliefs.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each individual's life stance, whether religious or not.
- Promote a common ethos and shared values.
- Reinforce positive attitudes.

Organisation and planning

- The school will implement collective worship incline with advice given by the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).
- Every pupil will participate in the act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn in line with section 7 of this policy.
- Worship will be of a broadly Christian character; however, there will be influences from other religions found in the local community.
- The headteacher is responsible for creating the agenda for collective worship in discussion with the governing body.
- The act of worship will be held for 15 minutes daily from 9:15am-9:30am in the one of the school halls or the classroom.
- Each assembly held will have a theme relevant to current affairs and topics agreed by the headteacher and governing board.
- The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to pupils of all ages and backgrounds.
- The headteacher will establish a timetable for collective worship to make sure progression from each session is carried on to the next, as well as to ensure that learning is practically applied by pupils to their lives inside and outside of school.

- The school may invite visitors or guest speakers to speak during collective worship, in accordance with the timetabled theme.

Implementation

The school aims to promote rich and meaningful experiences of collective worship that are appropriate to pupils' needs, ages and interests by:

- The school will take into account pupils of different ages and abilities when delivering the collective worship programme.
- The school will arrange for Teaching Assistants to assist pupils with SEND if the need arises.

Right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so.

Parents will be encouraged to discuss their decision with the headteacher following a request of withdrawal in terms of:

- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the pupil taking part in.
- The practical implications of their withdrawal.
- Whether the parent will require notice in advance of such worship, and if so, what period of notice is preferred.

Alternative provision will be arranged for pupils who are withdrawn from collective worship.

Alternative provision may involve religious worship relevant to their particular faith or denomination provided that:

- The effect of the alternative provision would not replace the denominational collective worship with that of the statutory, non-denominational worship.
- Such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school.

The alternative provision will be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum.