



## **MICKLEOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Name of Policy:** Collective Worship

**Date of Policy:** March 2022

**Member of Staff responsible:** Mrs Elisabeth Tanner

**Review date:** March 2025

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chair of Governors**

**Date Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **At Mickleover Primary School**

**We are:**

**Motivated to learn**

**Proud of our achievements**

**Successful and skilled for life**



## Collective Worship Policy

We define collective worship at Mickleover Primary School as being worship which reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief. We believe that collective worship should provide children with the opportunity to be part of a daily experience which is special and separate from other daily activities. We believe that collective worship has the potential to unite the whole membership of the school and therefore to develop a sense of community. Collective worship is part of Mickleover Primary School's contribution to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every child.

### AIMS

- providing the opportunity for children to worship God
- creating experiences which recognise the integrity and dignity of all members of the school
- developing a sense of community spirit, promoting a common ethos and shared values and reinforcing positive attitudes
- celebrate the growing multi ethnicity of the school population
- encouraging participation and response whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening or joining in the worship offered
- stimulating the possibility of a person's inward reflection

Worship at Mickleover Primary School is not:

- distinctive of any particular Christian denomination
- used as a way of enforcing religious ideals and beliefs

### STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Collective worship at Mickleover primary School complies with the legal requirements as set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The law states the 'Collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian Character which means that it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief'.

At Mickleover we recognise that collective worship needs to be flexible enough to encompass the age, aptitude and background of all the children in the school.

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AND ASSEMBLY

Collective worship and assembly are not the same thing but it is usual for an act of worship to take place during an assembly, either as a small part or its entirety.

An assembly is a gathering of part or all of the school. It is concerned with administrative matters and other announcements about school life, although in practice it is more than that. It is of the utmost importance that collective worship is seen to be distinct from those parts of the assembly that are concerned solely with administration.

At Mickleover Primary School every assembly incorporates an act of worship which aims to be inclusive, curricular and educational where all pupils are capable of responding.



## **IMPLEMENTATION**

At Mickleover Primary School a wide range of people are encouraged to lead collective worship. Staff are encouraged to take an active role in leading worship with Senior Team members taking a more prominent role. Governors, faith community members and other community groups are encouraged to be involved when and where appropriate, either by occasional participation or by specific invitation.

There will be an act of collective worship daily at Mickleover Primary School. The assemblies are predominantly Christian based, although other religions do feature to represent and celebrate the growing multi ethnicity of the school population.

Typically the format will be:- Either a whole school assembly which may involve a celebration of children's work and/or achievements with parents attending or key stage acts of collective worship, singing or hymn practice.

Reception children gradually join Key Stage 1 and Whole School acts of worship once they have settled into school. Until that time, Reception children take part in collective worship as a class or a year group.

## **WITHDRAWAL OF CHILDREN FROM COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The main aim of collective worship at Mickleover Primary School is for it to be meaningful and relevant to all pupils and staff, for those with a faith background and those with none. It is therefore hoped that few parents will feel that they have to remove their child from collective worship as this breaks the unity of the school.

Parents do, however, have the right to withdraw their child without any explanation. As a school we pride ourselves on good communication with parents and actively encourage dialogue concerning collective worship so that misunderstanding and confusion as to its nature can be avoided. Teachers also have the right to withdraw.

The Headteacher is not responsible for providing alternative worship but does ensure that these children have adequate supervision.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS**

The staff and Governors at Mickleover Primary School are committed to ensuring that every child in the school will derive some benefit from collective worship, whatever their gender, ethnicity, physical or mental abilities. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests and reflect the multicultural society we live in.