



Bow Community Primary School Collective Worship Policy

1 Aims and purpose

1.1 Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Bow Community Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- Share common aims and values
- Celebrate achievement and special times
- Explore together the world in which we live
- Develop a community spirit

For the pupils, we intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship God, if appropriate;
- consider spiritual and moral issues;
- explore their own beliefs;
- reflect on the direction of their lives;
- reinforce positive attitudes;
- encourage participation and response;
- reflect on what it means to be human;
- consider the wonders and worries of the world;

2 Collective Worship

2.1 Collective worship is a special time for pupils to reflect upon life experiences and ultimate questions and, if appropriate, focus on God. It should allow the pupils' time to be able to make a spiritual response.

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

2.3 On occasion, we hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

3 Organisation of collective worship

3.1 We hold a weekly act of collective worship. This forms part of our Tuesday morning assembly, which is normally a whole-school assembly and led by the headteacher or another member of staff.

3.2 Once a month, assemblies are led by local clergy or other representatives of religious groups, on a Wednesday morning.

- 3.3** We observe the festivals and mark the events of the Christian calendar during our assemblies. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics or other religions that we teach as part of the school curriculum.
- 3.4** School gather for an achievement assembly on a Friday. In addition, the school conduct Reading and Class Curriculum Assemblies. These may lend themselves to an act of collective worship through the addition of an opportunity for reflection or prayer.
- 3.5** Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcome.

4 Right of withdrawal

- 4.1** We expect all children to attend assembly. However, if any parent request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. 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.
- 4.2** The headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.

5 Monitoring and review

- 5.1** Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role the Governing Body, through the Teaching and Learning Committee. The Teaching and Learning committee liaises with the headteacher and reports to the governing body.
- 5.2** This policy will be reviewed at least every two years.

Amendments: Changes made to reflect content of school life – the days that collective worship takes place.

Policy reviewed: Spring 2026

Next review –