

POLICY ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT ULEY C. OF E. SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

Uley School provides a safe, inclusive learning environment that realises and values the full potential and talents of every child.

We encourage a caring community in which children and adults are treated with mutual respect.

This is fostered within a Christian ethos where quality teaching promotes high standards of behaviour and achievement and inspires pride in our society.

AIM

We believe the spiritual development of a child is essential in our broad and balanced curriculum. Children at Uley C. of E. Primary School have opportunities to share and participate in “collective worship”.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The school assembles for collective worship each day. This is an opportunity to reflect on the life of the school and for celebrating the achievements of our children. We provide opportunities for pupils to share what is meaningful and significant to them. We try to foster an involvement of the children in our assembly activities and create an atmosphere where everyone will think, contemplate and become aware of the presence of God in everyday life. We do so in a manner that ensures the experiences provided are relevant to age, aptitude, ability and family background of the pupil.

The Rev. D Crook of St. Giles, our local parish church, leads worship on one Tuesday each month, and we have ‘Open the Book’ every Thursday, led by members of the community.

Our acts of Collective Worship reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief with an emphasis on the Anglican tradition and heritage. We also acknowledge the beliefs and traditions of others.

Our themes aim to:

- (i) help children develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around them.
- (ii) assist in the formation of good interpersonal relationships.
- (iii) raise awareness of others’ needs and sensitivities.
- (iv) provide a time for thanksgiving and share joy, hope, sadness, friendship and love.
- (v) help develop common standards and values such as self-discipline and self respect.
- (vi) give the children the experience of being active members of a caring community by fostering an atmosphere of love, security and kindness.
- (vii) develop an appreciation of the special relationship between God and people, expressed in the life of Jesus.
- (viii) clarify and enlarge upon their ideas about religion.
- (ix) reflect on their experiences.

RESOURCES FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our worship takes place in our school hall and occasionally in the church, for special occasions such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter.. We create a peaceful environment by lighting a candle and playing music. We involve the children by giving them opportunities for listening, talking and acting. We make good use of the Bible, readings, stories, poems, interviews, discussions, radio, music and assorted visual aids. We make constant reference to our Rights Charter of Behaviour and we provide times of silent reflection.

Hymns

We sing together and our words are accompanied by the piano, occasionally other musical instruments or sometimes by commercially produced pre-recorded CDs. Hymns are taken from the "Come and Praise" I & II and "A Time to Sing". We feel our worship benefits from this collective experience of joining together in singing.

Prayers

Prayers are always said at the end of our worship. The content reflects the theme and is a response to our feelings and thoughts. We usually end our worship with the Lord's Prayer, the School Prayer, or a prayer directly linked to the topic we have considered.

Music

We have music of the month which is played on entry and during the exit from the act of collective worship.

Our worship takes place daily at 10.50 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Monday	-	led by the headteacher
Tuesday	-	led by Rev. D Crook
Wednesday	-	class worship
Thursday	-	'Open the Book'
Friday	-	celebration assembly

PLANNING FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Weekly themes for collective worship are planned termly. We follow the 'Values for Life' programme to support worship. We follow the cycle of the Christian year, Harvest, events such as Advent and special school occasions such as the 'End of Year' service when we celebrate the achievements of Y6 children who are leaving.

We also remember other world faith celebrations such as Divali and Chinese New Year. This helps extend the children's knowledge and understanding of other world religions.

On Fridays we celebrate pupils' work and achievement. The award of 'Star of the Week' values the contribution the children make to our school. We also have a termly sharing of class artwork, poetry and writing.

Visitors are welcomed to share in our worship. They may give a talk about a charity, an explanation about an event or a demonstration.

A record of the weekly themes is kept in the Worship file.

Reviewed Summer 1997
Reviewed Autumn 2004
Next Review Autumn 2007

Reviewed Autumn 2008
Next Review Autumn 2011
Reviewed Autumn 2012
Next Review Autumn 2015