

RAVENSCOTE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

2024 - 2025



| Date of Approval | | Date of Review | |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| March 2024 | | March 2025 | |
| Signed | Amy Wells Headteacher | Signed | Emily Gibson Chair of Governors |



Ravenscote Junior School

Collective Worship Policy

What is Collective Worship?

Collective worship gives all pupils the opportunity to experience different aspects of life and gives pupils the chance to experience a feeling of unity in a community. Collective worship sessions occur daily to provide all children with the chance to develop spiritually, morally and religiously. These sessions are planned along a weekly theme to give progression and quality thinking and learning experiences throughout the week.

Aim of Collective Worship

In accordance with the Education Act, a daily act of worship will be held, reflecting the broad traditions of Christian belief. Worship should be an enriching experience that encourages thought and reflection on that sense of mystery that lies at the root of life and is beyond and within all life. Children need the opportunity to share beliefs, to enjoy silence and meditation, to develop a sense of community and to respect the beliefs of others. It is our aim to provide such opportunities and we shall endeavour to encourage active participation whenever appropriate. The major religious worldview represented at Ravenscote is Christianity with 35% across the year groups with a further 45.3% adhering to either no religion or declining to declare. The balance of 19% is made up of Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Jews and Buddhists (2023 data). We acknowledge that parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of worship and provision will be made for them.

How does collective worship contribute to the 5 every child matters outcomes?

1) Be Healthy

Collective worship explores moral and social themes and encourages the children to reflect on experiences and emotions. It explores health in both specific issues and in the broader sense of the spiritual dimension of life.

2) Stay Safe

In collective worship we investigate and discuss the way we should treat others, we develop understanding of and respect for diverse beliefs and cultures and thus contribute to anti-racism and anti-bullying.

3) Enjoy and Achieve

We celebrate individual and collective success through our weekly upper and lower school achievement assemblies.

4) Make a Positive Contribution

Pupils' own experiences, beliefs and perceptions are shared during collective worship and act as a stimulus for reflection.

5) Achieve Economic Well-being

Collective worship provides the opportunity for pupils to explore and reflect on spiritual and ethical values and thus helps them to develop qualities, attitudes and dispositions that will help them to engage effectively with the world of work and responsible citizenship.



Organisation

At Ravenscote, we plan our Collective Worship using the Simply Collective Worship resource, using Cycle 3 for this academic year. The RAW lead plans the class collective worship sessions for the year. This gives each weekly collective worship continuity and progression. Within these themes we will plan for festivals, important calendar dates, and focal points in the community. Examples include Harvest Festival, Diwali, Christmas and Easter and charitable events such as BBC Children in Need and Comic Relief.

All members of staff and children take an active part in all collective worship. There are always two members of staff present during collective worship sessions and when an outside visitor is invited to lead the sessions all staff attend to enhance spiritual and moral development throughout the school. Pupils who are members of the Pupil Voice are asked by the RAW subject lead to help review and evaluate how the collective worship sessions are being received.

Weekly Timetable:

| Day | Year groups | Activity | Organised by | Time |
|------------|----------------|--|------------------------------------|---------|
| Monday: | Whole school | Singing Assembly | Music lead | 20 mins |
| Tuesday: | Year 6 and 3,5 | Year group assemblies | Class teachers by rota | 20 mins |
| Wednesday: | Whole school | Whole school assembly | Head Teacher/ Depute Head | 20 mins |
| Thursday: | Years 3 and 6 | Achievement/Class presentations assembly | Class teachers | 20 mins |
| | Years 4 | Year group assembly | Class teachers | 20 mins |
| Friday: | Years 4 and 5 | Achievement/Class presentations assembly | Headteacher/Class teachers by rota | 20 mins |
| | Years 3 and 6 | Class assemblies | Class teachers | 20 mins |

Resources

As well as the Simply Collective Worship resource, a variety of media and resources are used – plays, storytelling, the children's own work, music etc. There are various resources in the RAW coordinator's area, which can be used to enhance Collective Worship sessions. We also have visits from local Canon and invite other members of the community to join us in collective worship. There are also music-based resources (songs for assemblies) with the music coordinator.

Visitors/Community Links



Many visitors are invited to Ravenscote School to join and lead our Collective Worship sessions. We have contacts with several local churches of different denominations, which allow the children access to varying worldviews. We also have contacts with other organisations such as the Surrey Faith and Belief Forum, which are invited to participate in sessions which are linked to variety of themes. Our visitors always plan alongside our weekly planning and school routines to enable the best opportunities for spiritual development.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of worship. The children concerned are supervised separately.

SEND

We attempt to identify and provide for all our pupils within collective worship. All assemblies can be differentiated to the level of the attending year groups. The leader of the session can then determine what level to pitch the learning at.

Gifted and Talented

Challenging discussions, stories and other assembly activities should give the opportunity for students to deepen and broaden their knowledge to the extent of their abilities. Children will be given the opportunity to explore their own and others' understanding of the world through a variety of assembly themes.

Recording, Mentoring and Evaluation

Staff members present in each session discuss events held and this helps with planning for the rest of the week.

Each term a sample of children offer their thoughts on Collective Worship sessions. These evaluations show sessions remembered by each individual child and why they remember them. All these help with future planning.

