



## **Policy for Collective Worship**

### **Introduction**

At St John's our policies are regularly reviewed. This reflects current practice within school and all related government guidance and statutory requirements.

### **Rationale**

To develop a relevant programme of collective worship that involves the pupils and takes place in a thoughtful, spiritual atmosphere as an integral element of the whole school assembly.

### **Aims and purpose**

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for the children to worship God.
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues.
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs.
- To encourage participation and response.
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit.
- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- To teach children how to worship.

### **Celebrating Achievements**

Assemblies may also reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage children to participate by holding celebration assemblies and class assemblies, during which children may show their work and share successes with others and can raise issues that they have discussed in their classes. These assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and celebrate them together. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school - that all children and their achievements are valued.

### **Organisation**

Collective worship takes place each day either as a whole school, phase or class. It takes place in the hall or classrooms.

Each assembly will follow either the PSHE monthly themes, celebrations of achievements or attendance, religious festivals, topical issues. Children will also be encouraged to be

involved in assemblies. Assemblies may include singing, prayer and quiet reflection. Children are encouraged to be calm and quiet when entering and leaving the assembly.

### **Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship**

Parents retain the right to withdraw their children from parts or all acts of collective worship. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of collective worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff. The Headteacher will keep a register of any children who are withdrawn from collective worship.

### **Monitoring and review**

It is the role of a named school governor with responsibility for religious education and collective worship to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship and to report on this to the Governing Body.

Reviewed: October 2023

Next review: October 2025