



# NEWLAND ST JOHN'S C OF E ACADEMY

## Collective Act of Worship Policy

**'With God's help we work together to help each child fulfil their potential'**

The academy has regard to current guidelines and legislation.

### **At Newland St John's Church of England Academy collective acts of worship are:**

- Daily reverence or veneration paid to God.
- Sometimes quiet times for reflection and meditation.
- Times to explore emotions, discuss events in the news or celebrate Christian Festivals.
- Acts of sharing experiences, successes, milestones or prayer requests.
- Acts of welcoming newcomers or hearing from other groups in the community.
- Called 'morning' or 'afternoon' worship.
- Appropriate for and to include all children in the school.
- Varied; the school may be split into smaller groups as required. (Not children of one religious group)
- Usually on the school premises or in the church as appropriate.
- Special or separate from ordinary school activities.
- Collective rather than corporate.
- Different from assemblies. Collective worship and assembly can be part of the same gathering but the difference should be made clear.
- Opportunities for all children to take an active role with the possibility of a response from the children when appropriate. Each class takes turn to lead morning worship for the school and parents. Children help to lead worship where it is appropriate. This might be during Celebration Worship on a Friday, during worship in classes or on other occasions as supervised by staff.

### **Guidelines**

- The leader should prepare the hall and be in position ready for classes to enter.
- All children should leave the classroom composed and quiet.
- Music should be played for children to enter and leave the hall.
- The leader should always wish everyone a good morning or afternoon.
- Liturgical greetings may be used
- Worship should follow the pattern; gather, engage, respond, send
- Worship should include a hymn.

- Teaching should be in the form of a story, a talk or an explanation. ICT, drama, demonstration or visual aids may be used.
- Material should make reference to the Bible, Christian prayers or the Liturgy. It should not simply be a moral or a lecture.
- Children should be made aware if stories are from the Bible or another source.
- Where possible, the topic should be linked to the theme for the week.
- A Bible should be available and visible during worship time.
- Children's responses should be valued.
- Anyone walking down the corridor during the prayer must stop and wait.
- Prayers can be specific, general, relating to the theme or in the form of a learned response ( eg the birthday prayer)
- The birthday prayer and song should be for any member of the school community.
- Children's behaviour must be impeccable during morning worship.
- Staff should ensure that children are listening and joining in at all times.
- Children can be asked to help set up the hall for morning worship and set down afterwards.

**November 2016**  
**Review 2019**