

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, takes a weekly assembly on Tuesday and we have an ‘Open Book’ assembly every Thursday.

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 assemblies take place in our school hall and once a term in the church. 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 Code of Behaviour and we provide times of silent reflection.

Hymns

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

Prayers

Prayers are always said at the end of our assemblies. The content reflects the theme of our assembly and is a response to our feelings and thoughts. We usually end our assemblies with the Lord's Prayer, The Grace, The Children'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. The music is chosen to reflect topics being studied within the school or it

is seasonal. The title of the music and its composer is displayed in the hall. Reference is made to the music on a regular basis and the children are encouraged to consider the gifts of the musician and how the music affects them.

Our assemblies take place daily at 10.50 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. There is class worship on Wednesday afternoons.

Monday	-	led by Mr K Joyce
Tuesday	-	led by Rev. D Crook
Wednesday	-	classroom worship
Thursday	-	'Open Book' assembly
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.

The Friday assembly is a celebration of pupil work and achievement. The award of 'Achievement Certificates' 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 assemblies. 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 '97
Reviewed Autumn 04
Next Review Autumn 07
Reviewed Autumn 08
Next Review Autumn 11

