

# Emmbrook Junior School



## Collective Worship Policy

**Responsibility of:** Curriculum and Pupil Achievement (CPA) Committee

**Date of Policy:** March 2016

**Date of Review:** January 2018

### 2014 Mission Statement

The Emmbrook Junior School community works together to further develop each child's abilities by creating a nurturing and motivating environment for learning. Each child's self-confidence will be strengthened so they make good academic progress whilst gaining increasing resilience and respect for the community.

### **The Law and Collective Worship**

This statement is written to confirm with the Education Act 1988 and Department for Education (DFE) Circular 1/94.

The law requires that Collective Worship must-

- be daily
- be provided for all children unless they have been withdrawn by their parents
- be non-denominational
- be wholly or mainly of a Christian Character
- be educational

When considering the content of collective worship, account must be taken of "any circumstances relating to family backgrounds of the children concerned which are relevant for determining the character of collective worship which is appropriate in their case and their ages and aptitudes".

### **Right of Withdrawal:**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship and teachers have the right not to attend. However, we hope that most people would feel comfortable with the type of collective worship offered at our school. If parents do

withdraw their children from collective worship, they should provide suitable material for the child to read and/or contemplate during this time.

### **Our Aims:**

To provide an opportunity for members of the school community to pause from activity, to gather, to remind themselves and reflect upon the beliefs and values which bind the school community together.

### **We aim to:**

- Ensure that collective worship contributes to the social, moral and spiritual education of the child.
- Provide opportunities to worship and consider spiritual and moral issues.
- Explore beliefs both individually and as a school community
- Develop a sense of community, promote a common ethos and shares values, and reinforce positive attitudes.
- Foster a sense of identity and self-esteem and to celebrate individual and shared achievements.
- Provide an opportunity for grieving at times of sadness and sorrow.

### **Collective Worship contributes to children's development in the following ways:-**

- **Spiritual Development:**  
by providing them with an opportunity to reflect upon the value, purpose and meaning of things.
- **Moral Development:**  
by providing them with an opportunity to reflect on matters concerning right and wrong.
- **Social Development:**  
by providing them with an opportunity to share times of joy and times of sadness with others.
- **Cultural Development:**  
by providing them with an opportunity to reflect upon ideas, which are pleasing to the eye or ear.
- **Intellectual Development:**  
by providing them with an opportunity to reflect upon the nature of learning and education.

Any secular acts of collective worship will, where appropriate contain moral, spiritual and social messages and always provide an opportunity for worship.

A variety of methods are used including stories, music, poetry, drama, visual aids and speakers. Hymns, song and prayers are sensitively chosen.

A school plan is written on a termly basis detailing all acts of collective worship:

One assembly per week is led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team for the key stage. These assemblies will focus on one of our school values and reference will be made to our Values' Tree.

Our school values are:

- Tolerance
- Collaboration
- Responsibility
- Motivaton
- Democratic Principles
- Independence
- Respect
- Self-confidence
- Inquisitiveness
- Resilience

Sharing Assemblies (whereby children share work with fellow pupils and invite parents) are held regularly and each class normally has one sharing assembly per term, unless the term is short. Twice a week, 'class assemblies' are held.

***Approved by Governing Body***

***Chair of Governors***

***Date 02.03.2016***

***Head Teacher***

***Date 02.03.2016***