

BRIGSTOCK LATHAM'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



POLICY STATEMENT

At Brigstock Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life.

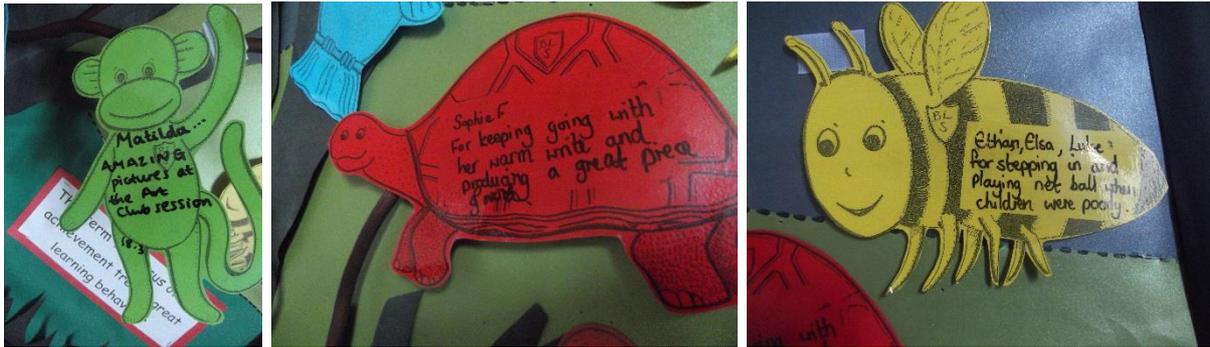
Through this and in the general ethos of our school we seek to promote our mission statement:

'Forward thinking and creative, valuing faith, tradition, community and achievement'

Collective worship is a time where we come together to share our faith and celebrate our achievements together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. The contributions of staff, pupils, Church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

CHRISTIAN VALUES

Within the curriculum, we have identified the importance of our learning values of resilience, reflectiveness, resourcefulness and readiness, with an all-encompassing value of respect. We seek to promote all these values within our collective worship, and we have creatures that represent each value, to make the values more meaningful for all of our children. We regularly share the children's achievements by referring to the values that have been displayed by the children.



We also actively promote the Christian values of forgiveness, fairness, honesty, integrity, compassion and self-worth. Whenever possible, we encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and respect within our assemblies.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head Teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

ORGANISATION

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for our children. Our current organisation is as follows:

MONDAY

Whole school assembly led by the Head teacher. This assembly often uses a key event in the Christian calendar or a current theme as its focus.

TUESDAY

Key Stage worship. We have two separate assemblies, one for EYFS/KS1 and the other for KS2. Class teachers lead these assemblies.

WEDNESDAY

Whole school hymn practice, with prayer/reflection time at the end of the assembly.

THURSDAY

Whole school assembly, with a core value as its focus. This assembly will also make active use of the prayer tree and the children's prayer books.

Whole school hymn practice, with prayer/reflection time at the end of the assembly.

FRIDAY

Friday is our celebration assembly, and we share the children's achievements in a range of ways.

- The children are invited to share awards and achievements from home, by bringing in certificates, trophies etc and sharing them with the school.
- Certificates are awarded for completed 'Learning Credit Cards', thus rewarding ongoing achievement, effort and hard work in the classroom.
- One child in each class is awarded 'Pupil of the Week', with the focus on the learning behaviour and values that have been displayed that week. These children receive a special certificate, read out by their class teacher and presented to them by the head teacher.
- Our achievement tree is also shared; through the week, teachers write onto our creatures when they see positive examples of our learning values being shown. The comments are read out to the school to acknowledge the contribution of these children.
- House points are awarded through the week for positive behaviour and acts of kindness. House Captains collect the house points, and the totals are shared in our assembly

In this assembly, the senior teacher leads the children in a special prayer. We look back and say thank you for things that have happened during the week, and we look forward to events in the coming week.

In addition to our school-led assemblies, we welcome groups and individuals into our school to lead worship. We have strong links with our local church, and assemblies are regularly led by the local clergy. We have established positive links with a range of individuals who enjoy visiting our school and leading and sharing our assemblies.

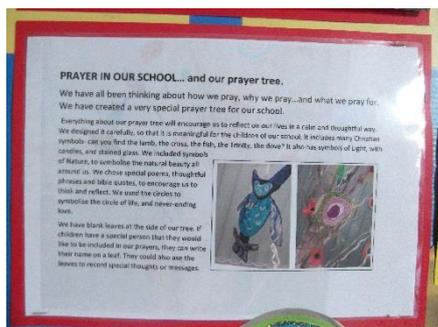
PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including hymn practice. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer and our school prayer. We also use favourite prayers, and personal reflections and prayers written by the children.

At the beginning of the whole school worship a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged by the lighting of a candle. The children are encouraged to look at our beautiful stained glass cross, created during our Day 10 project.

The school has a Prayer Tree, at the front of the school hall. Children are encouraged to look at the tree, read the prayers and add reflections of their own on the leaves, which can be clipped onto the tree.

We also have prayer books which contain favourite prayers and poems, personal prayers and reflections and thoughtful pictures. Every child has contributed to the books and the thoughts and prayers within them are shared regularly. Two prayers are always on display on our prayer board at the front of the hall.



Our displays in the hall encourage prayer and quiet reflection.

The cross was created by over 100 children, each of them contributing to the six Christian symbols.



OTHER FAITHS

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith and culture, showing tolerance and understanding. The class-led acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs being studied as part of the RE curriculum.

RECORD KEEPING, EVALUATING AND MONITORING

A file is kept, with details of each act of worship. Any evaluation will be recorded here. Teachers who are sitting in assemblies are encouraged to record the responses of children.

VISITS AND VISITORS

As part of the curriculum, Brigstock School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship.

Visitors to the school are welcomed and are encouraged to share their experiences and knowledge - their role is to educate, not to evangelise. St Andrew's Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas and Easter Services.

We also seek to involve our community in assemblies wherever possible. We invite parents to share our curriculum assemblies each

term, and involve the

wider community in events such as Remembrance, Living Advent, Christmas and May Day. When we have

created something also invite our

share with us; for

when we completed 'Christianity' Day 10

invited everyone to blessing of our

cross by our vicar. We also shared our prayer tree and prayer books with the whole school community.



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Sharing experiences with our wider community is important to our school.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of RE. At each key stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.

POLICY WRITTEN BY SANDY ETTRIDGE

Reviewed October 2018