



The Froebelian School **Collective Worship Policy**

The provisions in this document apply to all aspects of the school including the EYFS and has been written with due regard to GDPR and our Single Equalities Policy.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following policies:

- Social, Moral, Spiritual, Cultural
- Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
- Religious Education
- Single Equalities

We believe that the children in The Froebelian School should worship together and share in the special events and festivals that each faith brings, to foster an atmosphere of mutual tolerance and understanding.

1 Aims and purpose

1.1 The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship together;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to foster mutual understanding and a respect of each other's 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;

2 Collective worship

2.1 Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly (see section 4.1).

2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we often base our assemblies on the teachings of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

2.3 We hold assemblies that reflect the range of religious traditions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

3 Organization of collective worship

3.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each morning assembly, which ranges from a whole-school assembly to house gatherings and time for classroom-based reflection.

- 3.2** We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and offer the opportunity for prayer or quiet reflection. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.
- 3.3** The Headteacher or other members of staff normally conduct assemblies, but sometimes local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups conduct them instead. Some assemblies are class led and some by visitors with no faith basis, but with an important lesson to share such as the local PCSO or a charity representative.
- 3.4** We take the themes of our assemblies from the values of the many faith groups represented in school and we often reflect the festivals and events of their calendars. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum. We plan our assemblies as part of a series of themes well in advance of the day they take place. A list of ethos themes can be seen in our PSHEE schemes of work.
- 3.5** Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in assemblies by sharing their special moments with the other children and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of schools. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised. The Froebelian School is a successful school and we shall celebrate the successes of all the children in assemblies.
- 3.6** We invite parents to assembly on a regular basis and we encourage them to attend, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the achievements of our children.
- 3.7** We welcome governors' attendance at our assemblies at any time.

4 Right of withdrawal

- 4.1** We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2** The Deputy Head will keep a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship and share this with the Headteacher.


5 Monitoring and review

- 5.1** It is the role of the Headteacher to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. There is feedback to, and liaison with the Deputy Head and the Director of Studies.

This policy is reviewed regularly by the Headteacher in the light of experience, research and good practice.

Policy Date: June 2022

Policy Review Date: June 2025

Signed (Headteacher): 

Signed (Chair of Governors): 