



Sir John Lillie Primary School
Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

This document outlines the Sir John Lillie Primary School ("SJL") Collective Worship Policy. It details how Collective Worship ("CW") is promoted throughout SJL. This policy is reviewed on an annual basis or as circumstances require.

CW at SJL, whilst fully complying with the 1988 Education Reform Act, reflects the multi-faith community it serves. At SJL, collective worship is set within the context of 'Assemblies' – which may include other features besides those required of collective worship.

Worship has a wide range of meanings and forms of expression. For some people this might be devotion to a divine being, power or personal God; for others it might mean reflection on and understanding of those elements of life, which are of value and worth.

Assemblies are delivered to Upper School (Years 4, 5 & 6), Lower School (Years 1, 2 & 3) and Foundation Stage (Nursery & Reception) at separate times and take into account the different ages and abilities of the children concerned. There are also weekly Half School assemblies.

Aims

CW is an important part of the school day. It takes place each day but the time and location may alter. It affords a time for each child to:

- Reflect
- Be still.
- Feel a part of the School community.
- Celebrate success or joy.
- Meet together at times of sadness.
- Revisit school and community values including truthfulness, respect for others and fairness.
- Discuss and embody British Values (*democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.*)
- Mark significant festivals and school events

SJL is a culturally diverse community and this is reflected through our CW policy. Major festivals such as Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Diwali, Chinese New Year, Purim, Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha are explored and celebrated as appropriate.

Withdrawal from Religious Education

All children will take part in RE and collective worship. However, in accordance with Education Reform Act 1988 s9(3), parents or carers have right to withdraw their child from either or both. Should they wish to exercise this right, parents/carers are asked to complete the form, obtainable for the school, stating their wishes.

Children who are withdrawn will be provided with a quiet area in which they will reflect or read under the supervision of a member of staff.

Equal Opportunities

We will provide opportunities for all our children, regardless of gender, race or disability. For more information on equal opportunities, please refer to SJL's "Equal Opportunities" policy.

Prayers

Adults leading Acts of CW will introduce any prayers in their collective context, stating the religion they are drawn from and inviting children to either join in or sit quietly and reflect on the words as the children wish. A non-religious thought for the day may also be used.

Visitors

Visitors from local faith communities may, from time to time, be invited to lead the Act of CW. They will be made familiar with the multi-faith nature of the school and asked that they do not at any time preach during their visit.