

# Fig Tree Primary School



## Collective Worship Policy

'In our school everyone can join in with all we offer'

Reviewed on: March 2021

Next Review Date: March 2022

**Reviewed by Hafiz M Muntazir & Mrs Hussain**

## **Fig Tree Primary School**

### **Collective Worship Policy**

The Collective Worship Policy of Fig Tree Primary School is consistent with the values of the school. Being a faith-based school worship is a very important part of school life. All pupils and staff are informed that our everyday actions can become worship and earn us merit with our Creator if they are done for the right reasons and sincere intentions. The Prophet Muhammad (saws) said; ‘The value of your deed depends on your intentions’ (hadith). Collective worship at Fig Tree happens daily and is a time where pupils are given an opportunity to build a relationship with their creator through the act of Salah (prayer) and also through recalling of hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (saws) that are in line with our Theme of the week. Once a week our Collective worship is extended to include an assembly led by teachers and pupils on a relevant topic to develop all aspects of SMSC.

#### **Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

#### **Aims of Collective Worship**

##### **For the School:**

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Fig Tree Primary school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

##### **For the Pupils:**

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a ‘whole’ person by providing opportunities to:

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues

- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human
- Confidence through becoming the Muezzin (caller to prayer) or the Imam

### **The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum:**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Fig Tree Primary School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimulus and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

### **The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the *Salah* room, the school hall, or in the classroom.

Due to Covid 19 and social distancing we will mark out rows for each class in the hall to accommodate the whole school for *Salah* time.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 20 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Worship is built into our School Assembly and our daily lessons from our 'Theme of the Week'. We stop to offer prayers just after midday during the summer and winter months. We perform daily Zuhar prayer in Congregation. The year 5 and 6 students usually lead the Friday prayer and deliver the sermon. However, it is not restricted to them only, the other year groups also take parts in it whenever is possible.

### **Leadership**

The Head Teacher and the School Imam usually lead the acts of Worship. However, every member of the school staff will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year. The students are also occasionally given the opportunity to lead the act of worship and school assemblies. The year 5 and 6 students usually lead the

Friday prayer and deliver the sermon. However, it is not restricted to them only, the other year groups also take parts in it.

### **Planning Acts of Collective Worship**

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

A theme is allocated to each school week which can be found in our Tokens of Wisdom book, special occasions and events, relevant and age appropriate current and topical issues are also addressed whether that be regional, national or international. Together with weekly planning and recording sheets these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Fig Tree Primary School. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these Faiths.

### **The Act of Collective Worship**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

### **Withdrawal**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Head Teacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

A girl who reaches the age of puberty and during the month is unable to offer salah will remain with the class but do dhikr/tasbih instead.

### **Parental involvement**

Parents are allowed to participate and attend the School Assembly during which collective worship is happening to mark an event in the Islamic calendar.