

THE WILLOWS PRIMARY SCHOOL



Collective Worship Policy

Safeguarding Statement

The school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Author: Headteacher

Date: October 2026

Review Date: October 2028

The law and collective worship

The Education Act 1988 and DFE Circular 1/94 requires that collective worship should be daily, provided for all children unless they have been withdrawn by their parents.

Collective worship must be non-denominational and must take place on school premises. Over a period of a term, the majority of acts of collective worship must be 'wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character'.

Right of withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children 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.

Aims

Collective worship contributes to the social, moral, spiritual and cultural education of pupils. All acts of collective worship provide opportunities to worship, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore personal beliefs both individually and corporately. Collective worship is also seen as an opportunity to foster a sense of community, values, identity and self-esteem and to celebrate individual and corporate achievements. We take care to respect and value the diverse faith backgrounds of all members of the school community, and to promote understanding of, and respect for, different cultures, beliefs and values.

Organisation of collective worship

The organisation of collective worship is the responsibility of the Headteacher.

The weekly programme is organised as follows:

- assemblies led by the Headteacher
- assemblies led by the Deputy Headteacher
- class assemblies
- singing assemblies
- praise assembly

When planning, appropriate themes will be used and may include:

- examples of our core school values in action
- examples of British values in action
- Links to focussed skills and wider world learning
- readings, poems or stories from other faith traditions
- opportunities for pupils/staff to share insights and understanding
- music for praise and reflection or a time of silence
- music, poetry, drama, visual aids
- visiting speakers including clergy from local churches.

From time to time visitors and members of the local community are invited to take assemblies and to share with the children aspects of their work. Representatives of the charities supported by the school may take assemblies to foster the children's awareness of the global community and the needs of others.