



Collective Worship Policy

Review Summary

Adopted:	November 2018
Review Cycle:	Bi-annual
Last Review:	
Next Review:	November 2020

1. Introduction

1.1. The Trust believes that collective acts of worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos and the value which we place on the development of the whole child; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally and intellectually is reflected in our worship. We value the opportunities in the school day for children to develop a reflective approach to life and their ability to express their thoughts, either as a religious belief or secular reflection.

2. What Constitutes Collective Worship

- 2.1. An academy's funding agreement is drafted to mirror the requirements for an act of collective worship in maintained schools. Every pupil must take part in a daily act of worship of a "wholly or mainly broadly Christian nature".
- 2.2. The Trust interprets this by offering to pupils a 'Daily Moment of Reflection', in addition to Assemblies and other opportunities for reflection in the school day. The 'Daily Moment of Reflection' although including non-religious thought as well as thought from other religions, still maintains a "broadly Christian nature". The Trust recognises all faith backgrounds of children, families and staff and thus takes care to ensure that any collective reflections do not act to preach to, or convert children to any particular faith or denomination.
- 2.3. Where the Trust has been notified and is supportive, Individual Schools can apply to the local authority's SACRE for exemption from the "broadly Christian" requirement for some or all of their pupils. This is called a "determination", and alternative worship must be provided for these pupils, although parents still have the right to have their children excused from this worship. These exemptions are covered by Schedule 20 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

3. Parents Can Withdraw their Child from Collective Worship

- 3.1. Parents/Carers can request that their child be totally or partially withdrawn from collective worship. A request needs to be submitted to the Headteacher of the school.
- 3.2. Every request will be respected and the individual arrangements for the child, and how the child's withdrawal can be accommodated, will be discussed with the parents/carers.

4. Aims of Collective Worship

- 4.1. We provide our collective reflection by the means of a 'thought for the day' read out in tutor time, with a chance for children to respond to this through discussion, as well as through assemblies.
- 4.2. Through our collective reflection we aim for children to:
- Increasing awareness of themselves as individuals and groups within the school community.
 - Understand the feelings of others in everyday situations.
 - Explore the language used to express feelings.
 - Deepen their sense of wonder about the world.
 - Grow in the confidence to express their thoughts.

- Respond to spiritual stimulus.
- Acknowledge diversity.

5. Reflection Rooms

- 5.1. The Trust recognises that, if requested by children, families or staff, that it is good practice-where practicable, to provide a facility that permits worship of religions and beliefs.
- 5.2. Therefore, the policy of the Trust is, if requested, to take an inclusive approach towards providing, where practicable, a quiet room for use by any member of the school community. Such a room could be for prayer or personal reflection. If requested and practicable, the school will consult with pupils to ensure availability of the room in order to meet their needs.
- 5.3. Under the terms of the 1988 Education Reform Act, children are permitted to leave school premises to receive religious education. Parents should make such requests in writing to the Headteacher. Following the Muslim Council of Britain guidance, the Trust is to make suitable arrangements for Muslim pupils to receive such education in school if requested, thus negating the need for such permissions.

6. Policy Circulation

- 6.1. This Policy will be published on the Trust's website and included in the Trust's Policy Monitoring Schedule.
- 6.2. This Policy will be circulated to every Member, Trustee/Director, Governor and Senior Employee by sending an email to the link on the Trust's website.
- 6.3. The Trustees are responsible for overseeing, reviewing and organising the revision of this Policy.

Adoption of the Policy

This Policy has been adopted by the Trustees of the Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust.

Signed
(Chair of Trust)



Date: 19 November 2018