Collective Worship Policy

Calcot Infants and Junior Schools

1. Document Control

Adopted / Adopted and Adapted / Schools own: **School's own**

Review period: **Biennial**
Responsible committee: **Curriculum**
Statutory: **Yes**
Required on website: **Yes**
Ratified by committee: **July 2025**
Review due: **July 2027**

Chair of Governors' signature: **Mrs Julia Kidd**



Change History

Version	Date	Amendment or No Change
1	2012 July	Created
2	2014 May	No changes
3	2016 November	Amended
4	2018 October	No changes
5	2021 June	No changes
6	2023 July	No changes
7	2025 July	No Changes

Website History

Version	Date on website
7	2025 July

Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at the Calcot Schools pays due regard to statutory requirements and has taken account of the guidance offered by the West Berkshire Education Authority through its SACRE (Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education.)

The Collective Worship Policy of the Calcot Schools is integral with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus.

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 reflect or worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
Within the school and for children this meeting is referred to as assembly.

Aims

For the School:
Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of the Calcot Schools 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
- reflect upon important events in our lives
- reflects our multicultural community

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

- 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

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum
Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at the Calcot Schools, 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 class work 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 stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship
The Headteacher and the Senior Leadership teams manage collective worship in both schools. The role of the teams is to plan, monitor, deliver and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship
Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will generally take place in the school halls and occasionally the classrooms.

These will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership
Every member of the school staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year. E.g Year group assemblies, focus weeks etc

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.

Termly planning sheets available in the headteacher's office list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly planning, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable monitoring and evaluation to take place. All teachers are informed of themes on a half termly basis so that they may link with PSHE/circle time etc.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at the Calcot Schools. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness and respect.

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 occasionally prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made after the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made e.g. a moment of silence.

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request in writing that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be fully supervised and given an activity to undertake e.g. reading, sharing a story during that time by a member of the school staff.

Monitoring and evaluation arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by the Governors' Curriculum Committee on a biennial basis.