

## **FLUSHING C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY FOR WORSHIP**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Flushing School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School serving a village community and its surroundings. The school, whilst concentrating on Christian worship and education, aims to widen the children's horizons as far as possible with regard to faiths and experiences of others. We aim to prepare pupils for life, not only in their own somewhat sheltered community, but in a wider world.

### **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

- All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents. Parents are informed in the school prospectus of their right to withdraw children.
- As Flushing C of E Primary School is a Voluntary Controlled school, worship is of a broad Christian character, and within the broad traditions of Christian beliefs on a majority of occasions.
- Worship draws on the heritage and practices of the Church of England, but not exclusively so. Representatives of other Christian denominations can lead worship.

### **AIMS FOR WORSHIP**

- To promote the spiritual development of the pupils.
- To promote the moral, social and cultural development of the pupils.
- To establish, affirm and celebrate the common and shared values of the school, and to reinforce the unity of the school as a community.
- To provide an opportunity for pupils and all present to worship God, and to provide opportunity for individual reflection.
- To increase the children's knowledge of, and respect for the beliefs and values of others.
- To help children to develop their own beliefs and values.
- To encourage positive attitudes.
- To enrich worship by use of aspects of the heritage of the Anglican Church.

### **MANAGEMENT**

Pattern: Daily worship is provided by the following means:

- In a typical week, there are 5 whole school acts of worship, held in the classrooms. These take place before lunch and at 3.45pm on a Friday.
- In addition, the children take part in special services held in the Parish Church of St Peter's. These services are at least once a term.

Planning:

- Responsibility for worship in Flushing C of E Primary School lies with the Head Teacher who is the Worship Coordinator. Themes are used for each of the terms reflecting the Christian year/Values for Life/Seal resources.

### **METHODS**

Organisation:

- All organisation is aimed at producing an atmosphere of reverence and reflection.
- Music is chosen to aid a receptive state of mind.
- Seating, musical requirements, visual aids are set out, as far as possible, by the children themselves. Children are assigned specific tasks.

Formats:

The form and structure of the act of worship is at the discretion of the leader, in accordance with the school policy for worship. The venue for worship varies, including the use of outdoor spaces.

Leading the worship:

- A variety of people from the Christian community are invited to lead the acts of worship.
- The school aims to welcome all visitors warmly, and the pupils are encouraged to listen with interest and respect to the ideas and beliefs of others.
- Pupils, through a scheme called 'Open the Book' are trained and encouraged to take on the planning and leading of Worship (the scheme is open to children at Year 5, so they are trained and ready to lead during their final year at the school). Children,

through class worships, are given the chance to help lead a worship each half term. Also, Year 5/6 have opportunities to plan, research and lead their own Worship.

**Recording:**

The cycle of Worship themes are pre-planned by the coordinator linking up to the school values and resources. The Worship plan is designed to avoid repetition during the week.

**Evaluation:**

School Council will feedback thoughts about worship as part of their normal meeting cycle. Children will also feedback through the class floor books.

**CONTENT**

Themes and Subject Matter are contained within the attached worship cycle document.

A typical act of worship would include many of the following features:

- Music can be used to encourage listening and reflection.
- Hymns or other suitable songs are sung from our own collection of hymns.
- Prayers are said, the children's own prayers and silent private prayer.
- Child led worship.

**REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed according to the policy cycle document.

Signed

Date

TL March 2023