



# Clayton Village Primary School

## Collective Worship Policy

September 2024

### **Introduction**

Clayton Village is a Primary School in the Bradford Metropolitan District, catering for children aged from 4 to 11. This worship policy has been designed with our school population in mind. It is written in accordance with guidance from Bradford's Standing Advisory Council for RE (SACRE's).

### **Policy statement**

This worship policy reflects the law (i.e. the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act) and strengthens the community ethos of the school. It also positively contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural life of the school and the development of its pupils.

Collective Worship will take place daily and will be planned so as to be appropriate to all pupils of any religion or none, to enable them to be present and take part as appropriate. It provides the opportunity for the school to meet together in a variety of contexts.

The majority of acts of collective worship must be of a 'broadly Christian character' without being denominationally biased. Sensitivity to faith backgrounds will be considered and the school will have regard for family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes.

The aims of collective worship in Clayton Village Primary School are:

- To consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes
- Allow children to express their faith (if appropriate) and to explore their own beliefs, in a school setting
- Encourage children to identify the difference between right and wrong
- Encourage children to examine the impact of their own actions on others
- Help children to develop self-understanding and empathy for others
- To show interest in and concern for members of the school community
- To celebrate special occasions together
- To show concern for the daily happenings in school life, the local community and wider world
- To share appreciation of worthwhile activities undertaken by groups within the school
- To explore and review the variety of values, attitudes and standards manifested in society

All present should feel valued whatever their faith or personal beliefs.

Under no circumstances will pupils be asked to accept beliefs, which are contrary to their family background.

They will reflect the beliefs and backgrounds of individual pupils and encourage a voluntary response from pupils

Worship will acknowledge and respect the responses of individual pupils and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings, delight at life, wonder, joy, rejoicing, sorrow etc

Acts of worship will not assume a shared religious commitment. They will encourage pupils to consider their own place in the community and what it means to be a citizen.

The school values the impact of collective worship on the wellbeing of all members of the school community and ensures that collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated. This will be monitored and evaluated by the RE leader, SLT and governing body.

### **The legal requirements: the Education Reform Act 1988**

#### **Organisation**

Collective Worship may take place within a whole school assembly, key stage assembly or class gathering.

#### **Style and Character**

- The school provides a daily act of worship which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

#### **Interpreting the law for our school**

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship on grounds of conscience should they wish to do so, but we believe that Collective Worship is inclusive and beneficial for all pupils. Please contact the Head Teacher to discuss any concerns.

#### **Arrangements for those children withdrawn from Collective Worship**

It is hoped that no child will have to be withdrawn from Collective Worship, but where this is the case children will be supervised by an adult in school.

#### **The content of Collective Worship**

The content of Collective Worship will be designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils: to provide opportunities for reflection: to celebrate the good, praise achievements and promote recognition of each pupil's own worth and potential.

#### **Conclusion**

Collective Worship is an opportunity to develop the SMSC for all children in school and for the school to come together as a community. It is a time to celebrate and reflect on a wide variety of themes and issues in a safe and accepting environment.

Policy approved by Head Teacher: ..... Date: .....

The date for the next policy review is.....