



The Grosvenor Park
C of E Academy

A voice for every child.

'No barriers – No boundaries – No limits'

At Grosvenor Park Academy our vision, built on Christian values, is to be a dynamic community that enables our children to flourish. We will encourage, challenge and inspire our children to exceed their own expectations. Our community will demonstrate love, care and respect to all, regardless of their religious and ethnic background.

Collective Worship Policy

Date Agreed – Sept 2019

Review date – Sept 2020

Vision Statement

At Grosvenor Park Academy our vision, built on Christian values, is to be a dynamic community that enables our children to flourish. We will encourage, challenge and inspire our children to exceed their own expectations. Our community will demonstrate love, care and respect to all, regardless of their religious and ethnic background.

Mission

- A broad, balanced ambitious curriculum for every child.
- Positive attitude and commitment to learning in every child.
- Every child known, valued and cared for.
- Teaching promoting discussion, risk taking and challenge.
- Environments allowing every child to focus on learning.
- A great place to be, promoting wellbeing for the whole school.

Values

Hope - Compassion - Friendship - Thankfulness - Peace - Respect

Introduction

This policy should be taken and used as part of the Grosvenor Park Church of England Primary Academy's overall strategy for Religious Education and implemented within the context of our vision and our values as a Church of England School working in close partnership with St Johns Church Chester.

The Governing Body, in consultation with the Head of School, will consider the following policy for adoption.

In terms of the Legal requirements for Collective Worship:

The 1988 Education act stated that:

- All pupils must take part in a collective act of worship every day
- The act of collective worship may be as a whole school or in different age Groupings.
- It may happen at any time during the school day.
- It has to take place on the school premises. Additional acts of worship can take place off the school premises but must be in addition to the statutory act of collective worship on site.
- The Governing body is responsible for ensuring the legal requirements for Collective Worship are met in consultation with the Principal.

- All parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, wholly or partially. The school's responsibility for the child's health and safety is still paramount.

Collective worship is understood to be an essential part of the life at the Grosvenor Park C of E Primary Academy. It is the means by which the work, activities, the school family and the wider community, are offered to God through prayer, praise and celebration.

The ethos of the school is both underpinned and developed by the Christian values, teaching and reflection, which are encountered during times of worship. To this end, all aspects of the school life including the academic, social, recreational and pastoral, are considered to be part of our giving to God in worship and praise.

Aims and Objectives

The school's respect and commitment to Collective Worship is a reflection of its commitment to God and His Church, and reflects its Church of England foundation. The Grosvenor Park C of E Primary Academy aims for collective worship are:

- To provide the opportunity for the school community to worship God
- To consider spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues
- To enable individuals to explore their own beliefs
- To encourage participation and response (active and/or passive)
- To develop community spirit
- To promote and express the school ethos and shared values
- To reinforce positive attitudes

Organisation and Planning

There will be a form of Collective Worship on a daily basis. Each singular act of collective worship is part of a whole school programme.

When planned and executed well and with sincerity, collective worship can be a rich source of inspiration for the whole school and a focus for all that is good and worthy of celebration.

Acts of worship should be prepared in advance. A member of staff attending the service should record each daily Collective Worship in a special diary. The Head of School will oversee and monitor this planning and recording.

The pattern of the Collective Worship will be established in collaboration with class teachers prior to the opening of the school.

The collective worship will always contain a prayer and a reflective time. It might also include the following:

- Singing hymns or songs
- Music
- Reading from the bible
- Telling stories
- Drama/dance
- Visitors
- Lord's Prayer
- Visual aids/artefacts
- Silence
- Poetry

Each class will participate in a class prayer in collective worship/ classrooms at the beginning of the lunchtime and at the end of each day.

Resources will be available to support the teaching of RE and Collective Worship.

Worship in the wider community:

Whenever appropriate, children should have the opportunity to worship in St Johns Church as a school.

These may support the Christian celebrations of Harvest, Mothering Sunday, Christmas and Easter for example.

Outside Speakers

The school will enjoy a close harmony with Rev Chesters St Johns Church and as such there will be the regular leading of Collective Worship by clergy member. Both in Church and in collective worship.

Occasionally, other outside speakers may be invited to address or lead an act of collective worship.

Before leading or addressing an act of collective worship, outside speakers will be given the opportunity to read this statement on collective worship.

Visiting speakers should be accompanied by another member of staff and should not:

- a) preach controversial doctrines or political opinions
- b) invite children to attend meetings outside school without the permission
- c) raise money unless it has been agreed prior to the assembly and with the full consent of the head teacher.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents may ask for their child to be totally or partially withdrawn from Collective Worship in accordance with the Education Act. They will be advised of this right in the school prospectus and asked to contact the head teacher to make arrangements.

No reason has to be given but discussion with parents over the issues concerned is recommended.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the spirit, aims and practice for collective worship at the Grosvenor Park Church of England Primary Academy are captured in the DfEE circular 1/94, paragraph 50 which States

“Collective Worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to Worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive values.”

As a Church of England School, the ethos and spiritual dimension of collective worship will be Christian in particular and Anglican in general. Above all, collective worship is understood to be an integral and essential feature of the life of Grosvenor Park C of E Primary Academy and serves to inform and offer to God all that is good in the life of the school.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The policy will be reviewed at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.