



1. MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS

The school holds a daily act of Collective Worship for all pupils within the school, which fulfils the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988. The act of Collective Worship is held within the school. On certain occasions, it may be held at special locations.

All pupils attend daily Collective Worship (Except where parents have exercised their right of withdrawal.)

Collective worship is appropriate to all family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of pupils.

2. THE DEFINITION OF AN ACT OF WORSHIP

Collective Worship at Molescroft Primary School is defined as:

1. The response of people towards a supreme creation in ways that might include prayer, action and adoration.
2. A special reverence and a high regard which people give to those beliefs, values, ideals and achievements, which they take to be of ultimate worth and lasting significance. This includes recognition of special people, their efforts, struggles and their response to suffering.

3. AGREED AIMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

To contribute to the personal development of the individual, and develop positive attitudes.

To enhance spiritual and moral development.

To encourage individuals to explore and question their own beliefs and to consider the beliefs and feelings of others.

To build a community identity through which individuals feel valued.

To share values, emotions and demonstrate and reinforce the school ethos.

To offer the opportunity for celebration and reflection.

To offer consideration of issues which are important in a moral and religious context to the ethos of this school and the wider community.

4. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WORSHIP IN SCHOOL AND THAT IN THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Those leading School Worship acknowledge the following distinctions between School Worship and Worship in the Faith Community.

Worship in school

Is not corporate, and does not assume belief in a divine being on the part of the worshipper.



It offers the opportunity for:

celebration and praise
sorrow
forgiveness
feeling thankful
wishing and hoping
periods of stillness and/or prayer
sharing ideas common to many believers
a sharing of gifts and talents

Worship in the faith Community

Is corporate, assumes belief in a divine being on the part of the worshipper.

will include:

an act of adoration and praise
confession of wrong doing
forgiveness
an act of thanksgiving
offering prayer and petition
meditation
a sharing of common beliefs
an offering of gifts

5. OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDED IN WORSHIP AT MOLESCROFT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Collective worship in school, will provide over time opportunities for pupils to:

- worship God
- experience prayer, mediation and silence
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs and those of others
- appreciate the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them
- think about the needs of others
- develop a sense of community spirit, promoting a common ethos and shared values
- reaffirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school
- celebrate the various achievements of the community that are held to be of worth and
- appreciate and develop positive values.

6. THE ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Most assemblies are 15 minutes long, though sometimes they are longer. Assemblies will include an act of collective worship, which may take up the whole assembly or part of it.



Usual Arrangements for the Daily Act of Worship

Place: SCHOOL HALL

FLEXIBILITY

Due to calendar implications or unusual weeks, assemblies have to sometimes interchange with each other.

Arrangements for the Supervision of Pupils Exercising the Right of Withdrawal

Pupils will work in the entrance area of the school near the Head Teacher's office until the assembly is over.

Arrangements for Staff Leadership of School Worship

Assemblies are led by the Senior Management Team. Head Teacher 2 per week, Assistant Head Teachers 2 per week and by other teachers on a rota 1 per week.

7. WORSHIP LONG TERM PLAN

Each term a programme of themes is prepared by the Co-ordinator.

They will ensure that the planned programme is broadly Christian in nature.

Weekly themes are designed so that those taking the assemblies can interpret the theme in individual ways, providing variety and opportunity for diversity. Each theme is accompanied by the "thought for the week". These are displayed in all rooms and also provide a suggestion for an assembly.

In addition, one assembly per week follows the S.E.A.L focus for the term and/or current affairs and one assembly has a focus on the life of the school family.

The list below is only a starting point for the creation of the themes. Themes often relate to national and religious events and times of the year, linking with the pattern of the school year.

Starting points for themes for collective worship

Angels
Attitude
Awareness

Children
Compassion
The Cross

Empowerment
Eternity
Evangelisation

Beauty
The Bible

Death
Discipleship

Faith
Fear

Following God
Forgiveness
Friendship

Making a Difference
Meaning of Life
Miracles

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| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Giving | Peace |
| God | Perseverance |
| God's Providence | Praise |
| | Prayer |
| Happiness | |
| Honesty | Responsibility |
| Hope | |
| Humility | Sacrifice |
| Humour | |
| In Memory Of | Teaching |
| | Transformation |
| | Trials |
| Just for Fun | Truth |
| | |
| Leadership | Understanding |
| Learning | |
| Listening | |
| Loneliness | |
| Love | |

Additional suggestions for themes for collective worship

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| +Aesop's Fables | +Love |
| +Anger | +Compassion |
| +Attitude | +True Love |
| +Optimism | +Fathers-Children |
| +Worry | +Mothers-Children |
| +Positive Thinking | +Grandparents-Grandchildren |
| +Selfishness | +Friendship |
| +Communication | +Brothers & Sisters |
| +Creativity | +Couple's Love |
| +Death & Dying | +Romantic Love |
| +Fear | +Marriage |
| +Forgiveness | +Family Love |
| +Greed | +Kindness |
| +Guilt | +Valentine's Day |
| +Happiness | +Mind |
| +Seize the Moment | +Parental |
| +Honesty & Integrity | +Mothers |
| +Leadership | +Mothers' Day |
| +Learning & Teaching | +Fathers |
| +Life | +Fathers' Day |
| | +Grand Parents |
| | +Adoption |

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+Pets

+Dogs

+Cats

+Religions & Spirituality

+God

+Christianity

+Christmas

+St. Claus

+Easter's Day

+St Patrick's Day

+Buddhism & Zen

+Sufism

+Judaism

+Prayer

+Taoism

+Awareness

+Miracles

+Faith

+Angels

+Responsibility

+Success

+Follow Your Dreams

+Time Management

+Overcoming Obstacles

+Perseverance

+Setting Goals

+True Self

+Be Yourself

+Making a Difference

+Work

In addition, the following occasions will regularly feature as part of the school's worship programme.

Important occasions in the school and church year to be recognised in the school's collective worship calendar.

Epiphany

St George's Day

Week of Prayer for
Christian Unity

Palm Sunday

Middle of Winter

Maundy Thursday

Holocaust Memorial Day

Easter Day

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Ascension

Saint Valentine's Day

Pentecost

Lent

Trinity Sunday

Saint David's Day

Examinations

Saint Patrick's Day

Independence Day

Mothering Sunday

End of the school year

April Fool's Day

Holidays



| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Start of a new term | Advent |
| Harvest Festival | Christmas |
| All Saints' Day | New Year |
| Remembrance | |

INTERFAITH CALENDAR

In addition, the Interfaith Calendar is included to enable references to other faiths to be made. Whilst maintaining the broadly Christian nature of assemblies, it will enable the broad similarities between faith communities to be shared.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

A "Thought of the Week" links directly to the Assembly theme of the week. This is posted in every classroom and office and is designed to promote thought and discussion and provide potential links between the daily act of worship, the curriculum and the PSCE programme.

8. POSSIBILITIES WHEN LEADING WORSHIP

1. Time to:
 - think
 - share
 - listen
 - celebrate
 - support
 - be still
 - experience silence

2. Having a clear focus

A focus which pupils will learn to recognise and respect and associate with the activity e.g. the lighting of a candle, a vase of flowers, a painting/photograph, a piece of sculpture, a religious symbol, a cross, a shell or other natural object etc. Having an assembly table is an important part of demonstrating that this part of the school day is different and special.

3. Silence

The use of silence, is encouraged through stilling exercises and guided meditation. Assemblies will regularly conclude with silence.

4. Possible activities:

The following can provide opportunities for worship:

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- ❑ a greeting e.g. 'God/Peace be with you', 'And also with you' etc.
- ❑ a short passage of scripture
- ❑ a story, poem or piece of literature
- ❑ a picture, poster or slide
- ❑ a prayer
- ❑ use of a simple ritual e.g. holding hands in a circle for a short time
- ❑ a hymn, song or chant which the pupils like, know well and will join in
- ❑ unusual items, different from the "focus" ones to assist reflection e.g. an object from the natural world, e.g. a twisted root or an object from the technological world to enhance consideration of the power and creativity of human beings
- ❑ an account of an event or experience from your own/pupils' personal life
- ❑ music, silence, mime or dance e.g. in response to a story

Worship however is only achieved when those who are present are invited to reflect on the spirituality of the activity.

5. Reflection

Pupils will be **invited**, to reflect on the content of the worship. As the school is not affiliated to any religious body the children are not forced to participate in any act of worship including a hymn or prayer. They are however expected to show respect for those who do.

6. Music

Appropriate music to begin and end an assembly will help to create the required atmosphere and enhance the experience.

7. Announcements

If at all possible these will be at the start before the Act of Worship occurs. This way the pupils leave the assembly to contemplate the message of the worship.

9. PLANNING SCHOOL WORSHIP

Methods Used to Conduct Collective Worship:

It is agreed that Collective Worship will include some of the following:

Music

Exposition of an idea using a variety of methods, which engage the interest of pupils

Stories

Poems

Pupil Presentations

Visitors

EVERY COLLECTIVE ACT OF WORSHIP SHOULD INCLUDE:

a) the consideration of concepts that are of a broadly Christian nature

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(In all the planned emphases including those covering major Faiths and the celebration of achievement, it is assumed that concepts, which are of a broadly Christian nature, will be appropriately covered.)

b) a time of guided reflection which may include the reading of prayers/prose/poetry
(It is not assumed that all children will participate in prayer and it will always be made clear that this is a time for personal reflection which may take a variety of forms according to the belief of the individual.)

RESOURCES

In order to help teachers to plan their assemblies there are a range of websites providing supporting materials.

MUSIC

In order to promote good quality singing and music in an assembly, a range of hymns and songs are available to the staff. This includes the provision of backing tracks, sheet music and slides with the lyrics. In addition, for those who teach musical instruments in the school, the orchestra hymn for the Friday assembly is announced in advance in order to prepare their pupils playing in assembly. Not only does this give these children the opportunity to play for a purpose it makes the music special for the occasion.

10. THE CONTRIBUTION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP, THE SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF PUPILS.

One of the Key aims of Collective Worship is to offer pupils opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT IS PROMOTED BY:

the celebration of special achievements;

guided reflection;

the consideration of a variety of beliefs, values and feelings;

the appreciation of aspects of life which have special meaning and contribute to a sense of awe, wonder and creativity;

MORAL DEVELOPMENT IS PROMOTED BY:

the consideration of moral codes found in school, in religions and in society;

the consideration of relationships and bullying;

encouraging empathy by the consideration of moral issues from different perspectives.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS PROMOTED BY:

coming together as a school community;

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bringing visitors into school from the community;

sharing values and matters of concern.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IS PROMOTED BY:

using music, art, drama, story and artefacts from a range of cultural backgrounds;

exploring and celebrating aspects of religion and culture;

11. WITHDRAWALS

The right of withdrawal from collective worship for staff and pupils will be maintained. Staff should ensure that they have informed the Head Teacher in writing of their decision to exercise their right of withdrawal. Parents must inform the Head Teacher in writing if they wish to withdraw their child(ren) from collective worship.

12. CO-ORDINATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibility for provision of the collective act of worship is that of the Head Teacher and Governors.

The Head Teacher works with the Senior Management Team in order:

to plan and maintain the programme for collective worship;

to evaluate the provision for collective worship;

to arrange visiting speakers;

to update resources.

13. RECORD KEEPING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A record of the assemblies actually presented is kept and a planning format is offered. Staff are however at liberty to use assemblies from books and the Internet without unnecessary rewriting of plans

The co-ordinator will carry out evaluation at the end of each year following discussion with staff. This will influence the planning and delivery of future provision. The co-ordinator will watch assemblies carried out by other members of staff and visitors.

14. RESOURCES

The following are available in school from the coordinator and/or in the Assembly/Worship file.

1. Music for Reflection
2. Music to convey a message

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3. Religious and multi-cultural music
4. Some primary collective worship resources
5. Websites
6. Interfaith calendar
7. Planning sheet
8. Record sheet