



## Collective Worship Policy and Practice for Our Community

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: What is Collective Worship?**

A: It is the law (Education Act 1996) that every state school should have a “daily act of collective worship wholly or mainly of a Christian character.”

**Q: Is this what you do at Bridge?**

A: No. For the last fifteen years we have had a non-religious school assemblies which looks at spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues which embraces all faiths.

**Q: Are you allowed to do that?**

A: Yes. By the Education Act (1988) we can ask for a “determination” not to have “broadly Christian worship.” This has to be agreed by the Headteacher, Staff, Parents, Governors and Local Authority (in 2019).

**Q: Who gives you permission not to do what is law?**

A: The local Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE).

**Q: What do you have to do to have a SACRE “determination”?**

A: We have to:

- Decide whether an act of religious worship is appropriate.
- Ask parents and governors what they think.
- Decide what we will provide instead.
- Present this to the SACRE committee (Made up of faith and non-faith members)

**Q: What does this mean at Bridge?**

A: At Bridge Junior School it is;

**Our Policy To:**

- Bring children to the threshold of worship while respecting each family's religious preference.
- Address spiritual development within a collective act as well as the curriculum.
- Introduce and develop a sense of awe and wonder for all learners within a collective context.
- Encourage reflection on all aspects of life, especially in decision making and consequences.
- Promote a sense of belonging in order to develop positive responsibility within the community.
- Ensure that all learning in most lessons has a foundation in developing the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of life.
- Promote a simple approach to relations through the school's SHINE Code;

**Together we will be;**

**S**triving for excellence

**H**appy and engaged

**I**ndependent learners

**N**urtured and safe

**E**qual and fair to everyone

**Q: How will you do this?**

A: At Bridge Junior School it is;

**Our Practice To:**

- Hold a school assembly three times a week for all year groups.
- Have weekly reflections which will be discussed in classes across the school and in a school assembly.
- Assemblies to be timetabled.  
Monday: Whole school assembly with a focus on our school values.  
Tuesday: Year 3/4 and Yr 5/6 school meetings based on Thought for the Week and celebration of success.  
Wednesday: Yr 3/4 and Yr 5/6 assemblies led by teaching staff and based on PSHE& RHE themes.  
Friday: Yr 3/4 and Yr 5/6 celebration and praise school assemblies
- Include short moments of reflection within school assemblies.
- Celebrate all aspects of awe and wonder, including the natural, physical, artistic and intellectual in all assemblies.