



NICHOLAS HAWKSMOOR
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Quality, Enthusiasm, Partnership

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP STATEMENT

Date Reviewed by Governors	December 2016
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Collective Worship / Personal reflection Statement

We believe that collective worship should be a reflection on the important value questions in life and appreciation of the world in which we live. We intend that our pupils, regardless of their religious or philosophical backgrounds, should be encouraged, inspired and challenged by the religious and moral speakers they experience. Our policy recognises that most pupils do not come from a particular religious background. NHPS acknowledges its Christian heritage and seeks to reflect that heritage with the use of local clergy and celebration of key Christian festivals. NHPS makes collective worship inclusive. It affirms the diversity of its pupils in collective worship by having speakers from differing religious and non-religious views and carefully choosing topics which have relevance to all regardless of their world view.

Our Collective Worship Policy embraces the principles of the Equity Policy.

Aims and purpose

The aims and purpose of collective worship or personal reflection are:

- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- To encourage participation and response;
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- To provide an opportunity for the children to worship their God or to reflect personally;

Provision

We hold regular acts of collective worship or personal reflection in our school. This takes the form of either a whole-school assembly, key-stage assembly, or class/ year group gathering.

The content of assemblies aims to enable pupils to begin thinking for themselves and explore their own responses to religious, moral and ethical questions and to provide opportunities for them to learn about the beliefs of some of the members of the local community. The assemblies also seek to provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on important, current world issues.

We take the themes of our assemblies to reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum. We plan our assemblies as part of a series of themes well in advance of the day they take place. Our assemblies also reflect the achievements and learning of the children. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of schools. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.



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Collective Worship at NHPS may include the following:

- Talks from visiting speakers
- Music
- Reference to the Bible or scriptures of the main world religions
- Stories
- News items /current issues
- Singing
- Visual Aids
- Video clips
- Prayer
- Drama
- Art
- Artefacts

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.