**TILERY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

 ***Together Promoting Success***

 Collective Worship Policy

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Date agreed: ……………………..

To be reviewed: ………………….

**Rationale**

Worship has a wide range of meanings and forms of expression. For some people this might be devotion to a divine being, power or personal God; for others it might mean reflection on and understanding of those elements of life which are of value and worth. In LEA schools the Education Reform Act Section 7 requires collective worship to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, that is, it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief. Our school community is made up of people from many religions and cultures. While acts of worship are mainly of a Christian nature we conduct them in a manner that is sensitive to all faiths and beliefs.

**Aims**

* To provide a variety of opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural

development;

* To provide opportunities for expressing shared experiences, interests and to

celebrate special occasions together;

* To unite the whole school membership and develop a sense of community;
* To promote the school ethos and reinforce the school’s values.

**Collective Worship**

Collective worship is part of the school’s contribution to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every child.

Collective worship takes place:-

* as class reflection or prayer, as all or part of an assembly and during special services at local churches.

**Class worship**

A prayer or time for quiet reflection at an appropriate point during the day.

**Whole school assembly**

Whole school assemblies are normally conducted by the Head Teacher. They usually follow themes linked to the ethos of the school but are also used to respond to humanitarian and environmental issues in the news when appropriate. Sometimes representatives from outside agencies or the local community come into assemblies to address specific issues

**Team assembly**

Team assemblies are led by team leaders or class teachers and based on SEAL themes, religious festivals, special days and charitable events. Themes are broad in order to allow flexibility and variety in delivery and to allow members of staff to be original and creative in how they interpret them. Every term representatives from local churches lead one or more team assemblies.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) do not have team assemblies until the second half-term of Summer when assemblies are part of the transition arrangements in preparation for Y1.

In both whole school and team assemblies some time is used to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and to celebrate them together.

**Church services**

The school holds annual services in collaboration with two local churches; a Christingle service at Stockton Parish Church and an Easter service at Stockton Baptist Tabernacle. The Religious Education Coordinator works collaboratively with staff, church representatives and pupils to plan the services and pupils deliver the majority of the service using story, drama and song. Parents, school governors and members of the local community are invited to these special services.

**Weekly organisation of collective worship**

Monday Class worship

Tuesday KS1 class worship

 KS2 class worship

 EYFS class worship

Wednesday KS2 assembly

 KS1 assembly

 EYFS class worship

Thursday Worship as part of hymn singing practice

EYFS class worship

Friday Whole school assembly

 EYFS class worship

**Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship**

Every effort is made to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all

pupils and staff in collective worship. However, any parent can request permission

for their child to be excused from religious worship. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Any parent wishing to withdraw their child should make an appointment to see the Head Teacher.

This policy was reviewed and amended after consultation with staff and Governors.

Signed …………………………………. Chair of Governors

Date: ………………………