PAISLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

We value every child in our community: we want them to aspire to the greatest things!

Collective Worship Policy

September 2026

Collective Worship at Paisley Primary School

Collective Worship defined

In an educational context, worship reflects the values, aspirations and faith of the people worshipping. It is a time when the whole school or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests.

Aim

At Paisley Primary School we aim to:

- provide opportunities for pupils to consider spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues and to explore their own beliefs and learn about those of others;
- develop a sense of community, a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- Develop deeper understanding of the three curriculum drivers: community, aspiration and inclusion

Procedure

1. There will be a daily assembly. This could be a whole school assembly or key stage assembly in the hall or via Microsoft Teams. The daily assembly could also be in individual classes to celebrate work, promote reading or discuss topical issues. Each assembly will include opportunities for quiet reflection, celebration and calmness.

   The following assemblies take place either weekly or fortnightly:
   - ***Key Stage or Whole School Gold Book Celebration Assembly in the hall (weekly)***
   - ***Whole School SLT Led Assembly via Teams (weekly)***
   - ***Key Stage Teacher Led Assembly via Teams (fortnightly)***
   - ***Key Stage Safeguarding Assembly via Teams (fortnightly)***
   - ***Key Stage Home Learning Assembly in the hall (fortnightly)***
   - ***Key Stage Singing Assembly in the hall (fortnightly)***

2. Each key stage has a fortnightly singing assembly led by Hull Music Service. This has been highly successful in raising the profile of singing within school.

3. A programmed schedule for assemblies is shared with staff. There is flexibility to include current and topical issues, with a strong and intentional link to the British Values curriculum.

4. A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are used. The person leading the assembly will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age and the background of the children. We make use of Microsoft Teams to save time and ensure that all children can access and participate in daily collective worship/assembly.

5. Special assemblies take place regularly led by external visitors. These assemblies may be themed around safety, charities, sport or personal achievement/responsibility . There is a visitor of the month schedule to ensure that such assemblies occur throughout the year.

Assembly and Worship

1. Children will be asked to reflect upon the assembly that has taken place, a prayer may be read, a pause or a concluding remark/reminder of the theme and context for the gathering. Where prayers or hymns are used they will be selected with care to ensure that they are appropriate for and sensitive to pupils of all faiths, backgrounds and circumstances. In order to acknowledge the different faith standpoints of individuals prayers could be introduced with words such as, "I would like you to listen to this prayer/these words and if you would like to make them your own you can do so by saying 'Amen' at the end."

2. The act of worship may allow children to respond verbally. Children will have the opportunity to respond in writing to the assembly by writing their reflections for display for others to see. These will be followed up in future collective worship (s).

3. Pupils will be asked to participate in a variety of ways:
a) answer questions
b) give opinions
c) describe an event/feelings
d) drama
e) discuss in pairs
f) listen carefully

4. The ethos of both assembly and worship should chiefly promote the "community" curriculum driver and a sense of school togetherness.

5. Most of the acts of collective worship will be of broadly Christian character, reflecting broad traditions of Christian belief without being denominationally biased.

6. Occasionally representatives from the Christian or other communities may take or participate in assemblies overseen by a member of staff, usually the Head of School, Senior Leadership or RE Subject Leader.

Special Days and Events to Celebrate

During the course of the year, a number of special assemblies are undertaken and will usually be based upon festivals, traditions of awareness weeks. They may include Harvest Festival, Diwali, Christmas and Easter.

Withdrawal
Any parent/carer who objects to their child attending an act or acts of collective worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Head of School in the first instance.

Staff
All teachers are responsible for providing a daily act of assembly for their own class in line with this policy when assembly does not take place as a whole school or key stage. Staff should consult the assembly schedule.

We are committed to equal opportunities for all irrespective of race, gender, sexuality, disability or religion. We will monitor the impact of this policy to ensure that no group is adversely affected at any point.

