DENBY FREE CE VA PRIMARY SCHOOL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Organisation, Content & Structure
The whole school, including most members of staff, meet together daily in the hall each afternoon. The lights are turned off and candles lit to create a reflective atmosphere. Each class brings their class candle forward to worship. Four members of UKS2 form the worship team and assist in preparing the room and visuals. Worship usually lasts approximately fifteen minutes, but the length of collective worship may vary. Teachers conduct whole school worship on a rota basis. Visitors from the parish and VALLEYCIDS play an important part in the life of our school and contribute to collective worship. On major festivals (Harvest, Christmas and Easter) we hold celebrations in St Mary's church and our celebratory Friday worship is also held in St Mary's church. We also hold a church service in July to say goodbye to our year six pupils transferring to secondary school.

The following ongoing daily pattern is generally followed;

Monday (Worship through song and sign) *3pm H.Christie*

Tuesday (Learning) *3pm C.Hunt*

Wednesday (Reflecting) *3pm C.Johnson/J.O'Reilly*

Thursday (Responding) *3pm A.Hatton/R.Farina*

Friday *1:10 pm J. Clarke*
Celebration worship led by the Headteacher. Reflection and response from this week's worship and an emphasis on celebrating the children's achievements.

Content
Worship is planned around a Christian value for each half term, planning includes links to websites and a song/ hymn for each week. The collective worship lead plans for each week, but staff are invited to adapt the content and add their own resources if they wish.

The content of the worship can include use of stories, poems, drama, songs, visual aids, prayers, moments of reflective silence, focal points, interactive activities for the children, slides or video presentations and consideration of work undertaken in the school curriculum.

It should be noted that an 'assembly' is not an 'act of collective worship' but a gathering of the school for other purposes, e.g. notices, achievement book, behaviour chats etc.

Each act of collective worship will include more than one of the following elements:

- *celebration of the major festivals of Christianity and of other faiths;*
- *presentation of Bible stories;*

- *topical matters from the news or the locality;*
- *using literature with implicit or explicit religious teaching;*
- *appreciation of the natural world and human activity;*
- *appreciation of the talents, achievements and work of ourselves and others;*
- *visitors who represent organisations who have a brief acceptable to the school;*
- *prayer in different forms - formal, children's own, silence and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others and quiet reflection;*
- *use of music (this will include CDs as an introduction and conclusion, singing and instrumental playing by members of the school), drama etc;*
- *use of appropriate artefacts and focal points (candle, cross, flowers etc.)*
- *participation by the children;*
- *using collects, responses, hymns and psalms as a focus for short acts of worship.*

Planning and Record Keeping

A system of long term, medium term and short term planning and recording documents are kept in school. The planning documents, rotas and themes are discussed and then distributed to staff weekly by the coordinator. New/supply staff are briefed as necessary by the worship co-ordinator. The act of collective worship record is kept on shared staff area on the server. Plans are kept over time to avoid repetition of stories and other elements of worship, whilst ensuring a breadth of approach is used. The worship coordinator is available to assist with any elements of worship if needed.

Visitors

Each visitor is personally communicated with by the collective worship co-ordinator or/and the headteacher. They are briefed on the aims for collective worship. Themes are discussed and suggestions made as to the content of each act of collective worship. Should any problems occur with an act of collective worship the head undertakes to deal with these.