



**Branscombe CE Primary School, Broadhembury CE Primary School and
Farway CE Primary School**

Collective Worship Policy

Appendix 2

Guidelines to be given to Visitors to lead Collective Worship

A few things to think about for those asked to lead collective worship.

- Do find out who will attend the collective worship - the whole school, or just part of it.
- Do find out how long you are allowed to speak for (10-12 minutes).
- Do find out about the school's aims, ethos and policies, and plan your involvement accordingly.
- Do find out which theme the school is presently following in collective worship, what they have done already and will do in the rest of the term.
- Do find out whether pupils and staff are used to being involved in activities, should you wish them to be so.
- Do be willing to share your own experiences, beliefs and insights without imposing them on the children.
- Do prepare thoroughly - a ten minute presentation which addresses the needs and variety of backgrounds of pupils has to be carefully thought out, and should always begin by making a real connection with the children's world.
- Do help pupils by making clear to the children who you are, who you represent and what you are offering them.
- Do be willing to respect and value the faith and beliefs of the children and young people when it is different to your own.
- Do help pupils by allowing them time for silence in which they may think, reflect and respond at their own level, and from their own point.
- Do remember the difference between collective and corporate worship. A school assembly is not the appropriate venue for strong evangelism.
- Do adopt a variety of approaches in each act of worship or within each series of acts.
- Introduce them on a variety of occasions to the breadth of Christian experiences and practices.
- Do try to use a variety of learning styles.
- Do treat the children with respect.
- Do enable the children to worship.
- Do make sure your material and presentation is age appropriate.
- Do avoid assuming that pupils' presence at worship signifies their personal commitment or involvement. You should not impose on pupils words or



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attitudes which they cannot honestly express. Your task is not to compel worship, but to enable it.

- Do visit the school before leading an act of worship. Arrange to meet the head for a discussion of the school's policy and procedures, and if possible, be present at an act of worship in the school.