



SOUTHWICK CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

“Do everything in love”

Corinthians 16:14

**PARENT GUIDE TO
COLLECTIVE ACTS OF
WORSHIP**



Southwick CE Primary School Collective Worship

Why do we have them?

By law all schools in England have to have a daily act of worship (1988 Education Reform Act). This act states that collective worship should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. We make sure however that our assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school and to other religions.

Our assemblies are times for being together so we can challenge, inspire, celebrate and foster an atmosphere which allows personal, spiritual reflection and response.

Our Christian Values underpin everything we do. Therefore our Collective Worship always focuses around a value or a set of values.



Does my child have to take part in collective worship?

We expect all children to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship.

How are the children involved?

Each week, a pair of Year 6 children write a prayer based around that term's theme. They read their prayer at the end of each assembly, as well as lighting the candle at the beginning and saying our opening prayer.

Throughout the year, each class will also organise their own act of collective worship. Parents are invited to attend these.

How are our assemblies organised?

We always have music to enter and leave the assembly to help to create a calm and reflective atmosphere. A candle is lit by a child to signify the presence of God as the children say a prayer.

Day	Who?	What?	Description
Monday	Whole school	Core Values	This is a whole school assembly led by the headteacher or our friends from the local Baptist church. The core value of the term is explored.
Tuesday	Key stages	Core Values	Separate KS1 and KS2 assemblies are led by teachers. Again, the term's core value is explored.
Wednesday	Classroom	Talking to God: Other values	The children have the opportunity to explore some of our other values during this session. This is recorded in our class floor books so they can be reflected on at a later point.
Thursday	Whole school	Singing	The children sing together - this is led by members of the SLT.
Friday	Whole school	Celebration	Celebration assemblies acknowledge and reward achievements. These are often led by children and link to our values.



What are our values?

Our mission is underpinned by our Christian school values. Below you can see a list of our values. Our overarching value is Love and underneath in bold you can see the core values decided on by the school community. We believe that 'love' encompasses many of the attributes outlined below:

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.”Corinthians 13: 4-5

Love

Compassion

Respect

Friendship

Responsibility

Forgiveness

Service

Wisdom Hope Perseverance Creativity Truthfulness Thankfulness Humility Generosity
Trust Peace Justice Reverence Fellowship

Through collective worship we examine one core value each term in our gatherings on a Monday and a Tuesday. In addition to this, the children explore the other values above during their weekly class based Talking to God session.

How are parents involved?

After a long period of having to minimise the number of visitors into school we are beginning to re-invite parents to collective worship. They are welcome to attend Monday and Friday collective worship - please just let us know in advance if you would like to attend so we can make sure we have room for you!

How do we involve the local community?

We work closely with Southwick Baptist Church. Bob and Cathy from the church run two acts of collective worship a term as well as special services such as Harvest Thanksgiving. Where possible we like to have particularly special services in Southwick Church and in the Baptist Church.



We look forward to you joining us for our collective worship.