



# Claremont Primary School

A hub of educational excellence and innovation,  
supporting and valuing everyone

## Collective Worship Policy

<b>Responsible person(s)</b>	Mary-Lou Perry RE Lead
<b>Responsible governor</b>	Matt Lowe, Chair of T&L
<b>Responsible governor team</b>	T&L
<b>Date approved</b>	Autumn 2021
<b>Date of next review</b>	Autumn 2022
<b>Policy reference</b>	Claremont own

At Claremont we believe and recognise that the diversity of our community is one of our greatest strengths and assets. We are committed to ensuring that our pupils are treated fairly, and we have carefully considered and analysed the impact within this policy to promote equality of opportunity for all and we will use our position of influence as a school to work with all stakeholders to eliminate discriminatory barriers and ensure that our pupils have a sense of shared, common belonging and understanding

## **Introduction**

This school policy should be read in conjunction with Gathering Together for Collective Worship – Kent SACRE Guidance.

- All maintained schools provide a daily act of worship for registered pupils, apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents; in accordance with the ‘The Education Reform Act 1998’.
- It is a daily focal point for the transmission and development of all that the school stands for in terms of beliefs, values, moral codes and community ethos.
- Worship may take place with different school groups: phases, year groups, and classes.
- The themes of our worship reflect the moral, social and cultural development in RE as outlined in the Kent Agreed Syllabus.

## **The Nature of Worship**

Acts of worship reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities.

We aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature
- Consider moral issues
- Explore their own beliefs
- Participate and respond
- Develop a community spirit
- Reflect on what is going on in the world around them
- Share in the common ethos and values of the school
- Grow in understanding of the feelings and beliefs of other people
- Deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them
- Reinforce positive attitudes
- Develop an understanding of British values
- Be aided in spiritual, moral and cultural development

## **Implementation Procedures**

- As part of a Christian faith community, worship is of a broadly Christian focus but also reflects the multi-faith society in which we live.
- Songs, including hymns, should be chosen with care, ensuring appropriate language and content.

- Moments of reflection must be in a language appropriate for the children and reflect the pluralist society in which we live.
- Pupils will be given a short time of reflection or 'stillness' at the end of each assembly. This is an opportunity for children to reflect inwardly in their own way.
- Acts of worship may be linked to celebrations of religious traditions and themes along with our school values and ethos.
- Pupils and adults are expected to leave and enter the place of assembly in a quiet reflective manner.

### **Rights of Withdrawal**

At Claremont Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from collective worship. Withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Head Teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

### **Festivals through the school year**

At Claremont we recognise the importance of good inter faith relations and understanding between people of different beliefs and encourage teachers to recognise the different religious festivals with their classes- please see page 4 to see the festivals we endeavour to celebrate. Additions can be made to support our community if/ when required.

<b>Autumn</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>Summer</b>
<p><b>September</b>            9/7 to 9/8 – Jewish: Rosh Hashanah            9/16 – Jewish: Yom Kippur            9/21 to 9/27 – Jewish: Sukkot            9/20 to 10/6 – Hindu: Pitru Paksha</p>	<p><b>January</b>            6 - Christian: The Epiphany            7 – Orthodox Christian: Christmas            13 - Sikh: Birthday of Guru            26 - Hindu: Saraswati puja</p>	<p><b>May</b>            3 – Islamic: Eid al-Fitr            8 – Birthday of Buddha            26 – Christian: Ascension Day</p>
<p><b>October</b>            10/7 to 10/15 – Hindu Navratri            10/19 – Islamic: Mawlid – celebrates the Prophet Muhammad’s birthday, beginning at sundown</p>	<p><b>February</b>            15 – Buddhist: Parinirvana            17 – Jewish: Tu Bishvat. The “New Year of Trees”</p>	<p><b>June</b>            6/4 to 6/6 – Jewish: Shavuot            12 – Christian: Trinity Sunday</p>
<p><b>November</b>            1 – Christian: All Saints Day            4 – Hindu: Diwali            15 – Jain: New Year            11/29 to 12/6 – Jewish: Hanukkah</p>	<p><b>March</b>            16-17 Jewish: Purim            3– Ash: Wednesday            Mothering Sunday- middle Sunday of Lent            3/17 to 3/18 – Hindu: Holi</p>	<p><b>July</b>            7 – Jewish: Tisha B’Av            7/7 to 7/12 – Muslim: The Hajj            7/9 to 7/10 – Muslim: Eid al-Adha</p>
<p><b>December</b>            8 – Roman Catholic: Feast of the Immaculate Conception            8 – Buddhist: Bodhi Day            25 – Christian: Christmas            26 – Roman Catholic: The Feast of St. Stephen – also called Boxing Day</p>	<p><b>April</b>            4/2 to 5/2 – Muslim: Ramadan            14 – Hindu: Vaisakhi            4/15 to 4/23 – Jewish: Passover/Pesach            17 – Christian: Easter</p>	<p><b>August</b>            29 – Islamic: Hijiri</p>