

**Policy for Collective Worship****Aims**

- Our daily Acts of Worship draw attention to Christian principles
- We intend that our Acts of Worship will contribute to the spiritual and moral development of all pupils in accordance with our mission statement.
- Acts of Worship will seek to provide children with the opportunity to reflect individually on spiritual issues. (This may be collectively or as a silent time).
- The school seeks to value the beliefs of all the children. From time to time other religions are mentioned and local leaders are invited to lead worship.
- The 1988 Act assumes that all children will be present at Acts of Worship unless the parent chooses to withdraw the child. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from worship.
- We value the contribution to the ethos of the school of shared - staff and pupil worship - in order to support the promotion of values.
- Records of Acts of Worship are held in school.

**The Meaning of Worship**

'Worship is usually seen as the adoration of God by a group of believers who are in voluntary association.' We at Haddenham St Marys School, hope that our Acts of Worship will elicit a range of responses from the children. The range is shown below but it is by no means exhaustive:

Awareness of  
Appreciation of  
Respect for  
Preference for  
Commitment to  
Devotion to  
Adoration of

Our Acts of Worship are designed to leave children free to respond in any of the above ways in the hope that the response will be appropriate to the individual. This is a tall order, when several Acts of Worship each week, involve children who range in age between 4 and 7 years of age.

**Activities Associated with Act of Worship**

A range of activities may be an integral part of many Acts of Worship, which take place during the school year. Indeed it is the variety, which helps to maintain the children's interest in this daily activity. Sometimes worship may be a prayer, hymn or a reading from the Bible or telling of a story. The following activities may also form part of Worship:-

Reflection on moral values  
Pondering on deep questions  
Developing a sense of quiet  
Responding to a challenge  
Considering a religious idea  
Celebrating of learning about religion  
Learning from the experience of others

Children take part in class assembly regularly and children contribute to whole school worship from time to time.

### **Planning and Record Keeping**

The Head Teacher and representatives from the church are responsible for planning the theme each term and ensuring that Acts of Worship take place each day.

A school theme is set for each half term using our core values and then each week. The various Christian festivals are celebrated and a Harvest festival, Nativity service and Easter service are held in St Marys Church.

### **Visitors**

Representatives from the church deliver assemblies on a weekly basis.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Head teacher monitors the Act of Worship and governors regularly join the school during the Act of Worship.

Reviewed November 2011