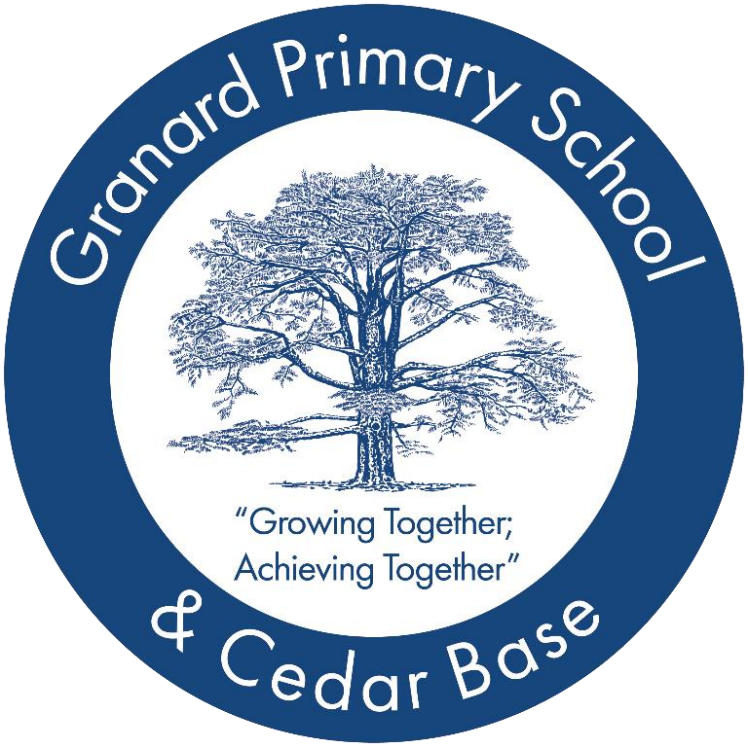
Granard Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

SEPTEMBER 2026

Review Due: September 2029

Legal Requirements

Under the Education Act 1996, all maintained schools must provide daily Collective Worship for all pupils registered at the school. The Headteacher is responsible for arranging the daily Collective Worship after consulting with the Governing Board. Daily Collective Worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. They are strongly advised to discuss this with the Headteacher before they decide to withdraw their child. Teachers may also withdraw from worship but once again will need to discuss this with the Headteacher.

Definition of Collective Worship

This is when the school, or groups within the school, meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Worship defined in this way draws on literature, music, art, drama and other sources of inspiration and reflection for pupils and staff whose religious and cultural backgrounds are of any faith or none. In this way Collective Worship is inclusive not exclusive.

Granard Collective Worship Aims

Through our Collection Worship we aim to provide a caring and supporting environment for children to:

- become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the school and wider community
- grow in understanding of the feelings of other people in everyday situations and beliefs
- explore the language which people use to express their feelings
- deepen their sense of wonder about the world around them
- respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus
- acknowledge diversity and affirm each person's life stance, whether it be religious or not
- share common aims and values and develop a community spirit
- celebrate achievement and special times

Management and Organisation of Collective Worship

At Granard we combine our acts of worship with assembly, helping to ensure that worship takes place within a broad educational framework.

Key Stages 1 and 2 meet together once a week for assemblies led by the Headteacher. On other days each Key Stage has an assembly led by Phase Leaders, members of SLT or special visitors.

Themes for Collective Worship are planned around the following:

- Festivals and celebrations of the main religions represented in our community
- Children's own interests
- Relevant topical issues from the news
- Outside agencies and visitors
- Work related to the school's PSHE programme
- Worship planned by a class or group of children
- Our School Values
- The 6Rs: Ready, Reflective, Resilient, Resourceful, Respectful and Responsible
- Showcasing aspects of the curriculum in school

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, age, aptitude and background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection.

Singing is an important part of Collective Worship. Music is a very powerful means of creating the right atmosphere and unifies and uplifts the school community. We have a bank of music from which to draw, taken from a variety of cultures and types. We are careful with our songs to recognise that there might be some words which some of our children would find offensive to sing. We have changed the words of some songs to make them more inclusive.

Collective Worship as part of the Curriculum

Collective Worship will help children to consider spiritual and moral issues, explore their own beliefs, develop their own spirituality, reinforce positive attitudes and participate and respond in all areas of learning.

Collective Worship should at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich class work through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

Visitors

Visitors will be invited and welcomed to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on leading acts of Collective Worship. At Granard we feel it is important for children to gain an understanding and learn from people in the community and from different faith groups. Leaders from faith groups within the local area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these faiths.

Reviewed: September 2026

Review Due: September 2029

Approved by: Governor: ……..

Name: ……..…….. Date: ……

Headteacher: ……

Name: …….. Date: ……