

BEREWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL



Collective Worship and School Assembly Policy

Spring 2026

Revised by School	March 2026
Responsible Person	Headteacher
Responsible Committee	Full governing body
Ratified by GB	March 2026
Next Review	Spring 2029



BEREWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AND SCHOOL ASSEMBLY POLICY

At Berewood Primary School, we believe it is important for the whole school community to come together regularly to reflect, celebrate achievements, and strengthen our shared values. Assemblies provide a vital opportunity to reinforce the ethos, aims, and vision of the school, while building a sense of belonging and responsibility towards one another, our community, and the wider world.

Collective worship takes place within the context of school assemblies. While collective worship is a statutory requirement, our approach prioritises reflection on themes and values that are relevant, inclusive, and meaningful to all pupils. In line with legislation, collective worship is of a broadly Christian character. When appropriate, assemblies may also draw upon the traditions and perspectives of a range of world faiths and non-religious worldviews.

Assemblies and collective worship are coordinated by the senior leadership team, with staff contributing to ensure that all children, regardless of background or belief, experience high-quality, thoughtful, and inclusive provision.

Aims and Objectives

Our collective worship and assemblies aim to:

- Provide opportunities for pupils to meet together in classes, year groups, key stages, and as a whole school.
- Encourage reflection on themes such as values, personal development, community, and life experiences.
- Introduce children to a range of religious and non-religious traditions in a respectful, balanced, and age-appropriate way.
- Celebrate shared experiences, achievements, and important events within the school and wider community.
- Promote interaction and collaboration between pupils across year groups and with staff and visitors.
- Fulfil the statutory requirement for a daily act of collective worship for all pupils.
- Strengthen a sense of community, reinforcing the aims, values, and ethos of the school.

The School Community

Our school is enriched by pupils, families, and staff with a wide range of beliefs and worldviews, including religious, non-religious, humanist, agnostic, and atheist perspectives. Assemblies are planned to be inclusive, respectful, and accessible to all.

While statutory guidance requires collective worship to be of a *broadly Christian* character, our school interprets this through universal values—such as kindness, perseverance, respect, compassion, and responsibility—shared across many faith and non-faith traditions. These values align with and are reinforced through our Berewood Bonds:

- *We are Kind and Helpful*
- *We are Resilient and Hardworking*
- *We are Respectful and Safe*

Assembly time is also used to support pupils' understanding of The Empowerment Approach, which helps children learn about their brain, their feelings, their reactions, and their needs, enabling them to manage themselves and their relationships effectively.

Assemblies are calm, reflective moments in the school day. Pupils are expected to behave respectfully, enter and leave quietly, and participate in a manner that feels comfortable for them. No child is required to pray or take part in any act that conflicts with their personal beliefs.

Organisation and Management

The school holds daily assemblies, which may be class-based, year-group, phase-based, or whole-school. The content, structure, and activities vary, but all assemblies aim to be engaging, reflective, and meaningful.

Celebration assemblies are held weekly, allowing pupils to share successes, acknowledge effort, and highlight achievements both in and out of school.

Assemblies may be led by members of staff, the senior leadership team, or invited visitors. Collective worship takes place within these assemblies in a reflective and inclusive manner.

A half-termly or termly programme of themes is planned by staff. Themes may relate to values, personal development, national events, PSHCE, cultural festivals, or significant moments in the school calendar (e.g., Remembrance, harvest, seasonal celebrations).

Collective worship typically includes:

- A moment of reflection or stillness
- A short story, stimulus, or theme
- An opportunity to think about moral, social, emotional, or spiritual aspects of life
- A focus on a shared value or idea
- A sense of curiosity, awe, or appreciation for the world

Themes are deliberately broad to allow flexibility and to ensure all assemblies remain relevant to a wide range of beliefs and perspectives.

Weekly Programme:

Day of the Week	Assembly Focus
Monday	Year 1, 2 and 4 Singing Assembly led by a member of the Senior Leadership or Teaching team
Tuesday	Year 3, 5 and 6 Assembly led by a member of the Senior Leadership or Teaching team
Wednesday	Year 4, 5 and 6 Celebration Assembly led by a member of the Senior Leadership or Teaching Team – supported by Year 6 House Captains
Thursday	Year 1, 2 and 3 Celebration Assembly led by a member of the Senior Leadership or Teaching Team (Year R often join by the Spring or Summer Term)

Friday	Whole School Assembly – Values based
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Time Allocation

Assemblies are planned for about 15/20 minutes each day, including collective worship and other matters of school interest or celebration.

Resources

The school uses a range of books, stories, music, and online resources to support inclusive collective worship and assembly planning.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to request withdrawal from collective worship. The headteacher will meet with parents to understand their views and agree appropriate arrangements, ensuring the child continues to feel included and supported within the school community.

Community

The school values its connections with local organisations, community groups, faith groups, and charities. Visitors—such as local leaders, charity representatives, or community members—may be invited to contribute to assemblies, and all visitors are appropriately vetted.

Fundraising initiatives, community projects, and special events may be celebrated or introduced through assemblies, helping pupils understand their role within the wider community.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy was revised in Spring 2026 and will be reviewed as part of the standard three-year policy review cycle.