



## Collective Worship at Saxon Primary School

By law, collective worship takes place in school every day. At the end of assemblies children have a brief opportunity to reflect on the teachings that have just been shared, as well as their own values and beliefs. Worship is “broadly Christian” but regularly draws on teachings from other religions. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship however we encourage parents who may be considering this to discuss it fully with our Religious Studies (R.S.) Subject Leader or a member of the Leadership team, to see what else can be done to alleviate particular anxieties about this important aspect of our provision.

### Assemblies

In assemblies at Saxon Primary School staff and visitors support children in the development of their spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) understanding. Assemblies also provide an opportunity for staff and children to come together to celebrate each other’s successes.

We welcome visitors from all religious communities, including faith leaders and parents from within our own school community, to share their experiences with us.

Throughout the year, each of the four areas of learning in SMSC is explored in our whole school and Key Stage assemblies. Children are often asked to reflect on what they have heard in assembly, in class as part of their R.S. and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) learning.

| <u>Term</u> | <u>SMSC Focus</u>  | <u>Assembly topics include:</u>   | <u>Jigsaw Link</u>     |
|-------------|--------------------|---|------------------------|
| Autumn I    | Moral learning     | Forgiveness, Facing the consequences of our actions, Why do we need rules?            | Being Me in My World   |
| Autumn II   | Cultural learning  | Remembrance, Our multicultural world, Tolerance, Festivals and celebrations.          | Celebrating Difference |
| Spring I    | Social learning    | Working together, Collaboration, Resolving conflict, What does community mean to you? | Dreams and Goals       |
| Spring II   |                    | Global Citizenship, Helping others, The environment, Our world.                       | Healthy Me             |
| Summer I    | Spiritual learning | The beliefs of others, Respect, Tolerance, Values.                                    | Relationships          |
| Summer II   |                    | Awe and wonder, Imagination and creativity, Feelings and emotions.                    | Changing Me            |

### Leading Assemblies

All staff are expected to lead assemblies. A rota is put together and shared with staff at the start of each half term by the R.S. Subject Leader. This rota is displayed in the staff room and includes information about the theme for the week as well as key events reflecting religious and non-religious beliefs and worldviews. The rota is also saved in the 'Assemblies' folder on 'Staff Share'. In this folder, staff will also find materials which may be used during assemblies.

### Leading Reflection in Assemblies

At the end of each assembly, children are guided to reflect on the learning that has been shared. This is led by the member of staff or visitor leading assembly. These guidelines are provided to support staff and visitors in leading these important opportunities for children.

Should you have any questions about the information provided below, please speak to the R.S. Subject Leader.

- Reflections should highlight the key themes of the learning shared within the assembly.
- Reflections may take the form of a prayer or guided reflection. They may begin with 'Dear God\*' and end with 'Amen' but this is not always necessary.
- Children should be notified of the start of a reflection however, how they chose to sit during this time should not be directed. How children choose to sit should remain within the realms of our whole school expectations for sensible choices which enable good listening.
- Children will be invited to consider the shared reflection but should not be asked to repeat it back to the adult leading it.

\* We use the denomination 'God' so that our reflections are appropriate for all the faiths represented within our school community. To ensure inclusion for all of our children, we respectfully ask that no other denomination is used in reflections.