

Whitefield Infant School, Nelson

Collective Worship

Assessment for Determination to lift or modify the requirement to deliver collective worship that is wholly, mainly or broadly of Christian character

28th March 2011

Background

Whitefield had asked for a renewal of their determination regarding collective worship [CW]. Helen Harrison RE Adviser and Officer to the Lancashire SACRE visited the Head Teacher on 28th March 2011. Since the last application to Lancashire SACRE the school's intake has changed to 96% Asian heritage/Muslim and 4% Eastern European/Roman Catholic. No pupils withdraw from the current arrangements for CW. The Head Teacher, Mrs Cummins, explained that space was an issue and class and year groups gathered for collective worship – once the planned new buildings were available it was planned that the whole school meet together.

Review

The Head Teacher described an inclusive approach to CW which allowed children to encounter a reflective and spiritual experience through focusing on core values and principles that are universally shared. When the guidance and legal requirements were considered she agreed that she would map these to 'wholly mainly and broadly Christian worship' themes. She would also consult the Lancashire guidance for CW – Mirrors and Doors.

Conclusions

It was felt that the Head's approach to and planning for CW meant that there was no need for a determination.

Helen Harrison would send her the link and password for Mirrors and Doors

The Head would map provision against Christian values and principles

HH would report the visit to Lancashire SACRE for consideration