



Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

Issued: September 2025
Review: Term 1 annually
LST: PMA

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

All Schools in the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership offer pupils the opportunity to develop and celebrate their awareness of themselves, others and their world through themes and activities of a spiritual and moral character during Collective Worship.

Where relevant please refer to additional individual School Policies added as appendices:

[Clutton Primary School](#)

[Critchill School](#)

[Danesfield C of E Middle School](#)

[Dundry Primary School](#)

[Farrington Gurney C of E Primary School](#)

[High Littleton C of E Primary School](#)

[Old Cleeve C of E First School](#)

[Selwood Academy](#)

[Shoscombe Church School](#)

[St John's Primary School](#)

[St Julian's Church School](#)

[St Mark's Secondary School](#)

[St Mary's Primary School](#)

[St Michael's C of E First School](#)

[St Peter's C of E First School](#)

[Trinity Church School](#)

We recognise the value to our students of exploring ultimate questions, sharing a sense of community and recognising things of worth and value.

This will be presented in a broadly Christian context engendering the values of morality, compassion, humanity, tolerance, justice, charity and community. These values are also found in other belief systems which should also be appreciated and treated with respect. Examples of these values should be drawn, where appropriate, from the Christian tradition.

In exploring these values pupils will be able to take part in activities which:

- are relevant to the age, experience and family background of the pupils
- respect the integrity of all who are present
- have variety in approach by the range of styles and activities adopted and involve a variety of people, including visitors
- enable all pupils to take part by, for instance:
 - listening
 - watching

- joining in
- reflecting
- responding
- include the opportunity for reflection. There should be occasional "teaching" about the purpose of reflection in Collective Worship (which can be linked to the opportunity to "pray" or direct any thoughts if pupils believe in a God).

FREQUENCY

According to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, each pupil in attendance at a community, foundation or voluntary school should, on each school day, take part in an act of collective worship.

Most Primary School children will meet daily as a school, key stage or in class groups. Each week there will usually be at least one whole school collective worship session. The collective worship sessions within the school will usually include a session linked to school values led by the Headteacher or a member of the SLT, a session which draws on current affairs and issues, a session which includes an element of singing or worship (i.e. learning and practising songs and hymns) and a celebration assembly, led by the Headteacher or member of the SLT.

Over the course of the school year many primary schools require classes to produce a class assembly, led by the class teacher, to which parents/carers and friends are invited. A local vicar or minister will often lead whole school assemblies and a range of guest speakers are invited to take assemblies including representatives from charities and environmental organisations.

In Secondary and Specialist provisions the range of facilities do not allow for each child to have an Assembly every day. Assemblies will be held in the Main Hall (when not in use for examinations or other events).

Sixth Form students will have an Assembly every other week (Year 12 one week, then Year 13).

Withdrawal

According to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, If the parent or carer of any pupil at a community, foundation or voluntary school other than a sixth-form pupil requests that they may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at collective worship at the school, the pupil should be excused until the request is withdrawn.

If a sixth-form pupil requests that they may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship at a community, foundation or voluntary school, the pupil should also be excused.



CLUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Rationale

The Collective Worship Policy at Clutton Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements. The Collective Worship Policy of the school is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole 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.

Aims of Collective Worship for the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Clutton Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in Clutton Primary School Collective Worship will 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 classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives. The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship

The head teacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for arranging the daily collective worship after consulting with the governing body.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to take place in the school hall.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Leadership

Members of the school staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

The Executive Head and Head of School are legally responsible for collective worship. The Collective Worship Coordinator plans weekly themes for the whole school throughout the year. Class teachers are responsible for their own plans for class assemblies within this planned framework.

The programme contains themes which during the course of the year centre around:

- religious festivals and special days
- annual events and anniversaries
- aspects of the school curriculum e.g. SEAL themes
- developments from classroom activities
- published assembly books and other literature.

In order to prevent too many restrictions, the full plan leaves room for the more topical and spontaneous acts of worship (for example, exploring current affairs and responding to events in the life of the school).

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these Faiths.

The Act of Collective Worship

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, the age, aptitude and the 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 and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made. (A change of personnel, music, a moment of silence etc)

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

The Pattern of Worship

Children will meet daily as a school, key stage or in class groups. Each week there will normally be four whole school assemblies. The first, on Monday, led by The Headteacher, the second on Wednesday led by a class teacher, the third on Thursday (which takes the form of a hymn/singing practice) and the fourth on Friday (which is a celebration assembly) led by the Headteacher. Over the course of the school year each class will produce a class assembly, led by the class teacher, to which parents/careers and friends are invited. The local vicar leads a whole school assembly at least once a term. A range of guest speakers are invited to take assemblies including representatives from charities and environmental organisations.

Collective Worship Timetable

Monday - Whole school - PSHE focus

Tuesday - Whole school Music assembly

Wednesday - Class assembly

Thursday - Whole school wider world assembly

Friday - Whole school celebration assembly



CRITCHILL SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Purpose

To ensure:

- All Students meet the legal requirement of collective worship whilst at Critchill School.
- To promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils

Roles and Responsibilities

All Teaching Staff:

- To ensure policy and procedures are followed when undertaking collective worship

Senior Leadership Team:

- To ensure all staff plan collective worship opportunities into their daily timetable
- To ensure staff are advised of policies and procedures these are included in the induction programme
- To ensure policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and updated

Procedure

At Critchill School we believe that collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our school ethos and the values we place on the development of the whole child; spiritually, morally, socially, culturally, and intellectually is reflected in our worship. We value this time in the school day for the space it gives to students to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways or any other appropriate manner.

It is a legal requirement that a school provides a daily act of collective worship for all pupils. Collective worship in special schools is regulated under the Education (Special Schools) Regulations 1994. Regulation 10 says “Arrangements shall be made to secure that, so far as practicable, every pupil attending the school will attend daily collective worship and receive RE...”

At Critchill School we provide daily opportunities for collective worship. We have decided that remaining in class groups for the majority of our collective worship will provide our pupils with the best educational opportunity and learning experience.

Parents can, if they wish, remove their child from Collective Worship. A parental request should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Collective worship at Critchill School is intended to:

- promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils;
- be consistent with the aims and values of the school;
- provide a time for reflection
- provide opportunities for pupils to consider and explore their own beliefs and those of other people
- promote respect for the integrity of individuals and faiths
- encourage participation and response
- provide opportunities to celebrate such things as achievement and special occasions and to share feelings such as thankfulness, joy, friendship, sadness or hope.

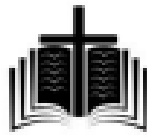
Collective worship at Critchill School may include:

- Stories, songs and music
- Objects of interest
- Creative arts
- Mindfulness activities
- Local and national news stories

Themes for Collective Worship can be found on our whole school Curriculum Overview

Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed: Summer 2026 By Local Governing Board Next Review: Summer 2028



Our Christian Roots theologically based values

Our Mission:

At Danesfield, we empower children and adults alike to explore the world around them and recognise the gifts within, guided by Christian values and the spirit of Living and Learning Together.

Rooted in the wisdom of 1 Timothy 4:12, we nurture Respect, Responsibility, and Resilience, so that every individual may grow in faith, lead with integrity, and flourish as compassionate, courageous citizens.

1. Vision for Collective

Worship

At Danesfield Church of England Middle School, collective worship is at the heart of our life as a Church school. It is a distinctive and inclusive expression of our Christian vision and underpins our ethos of **living and learning together**.

Our Christian Roots

*Living and Learning Together with
Respect Responsibility and Resilience*

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Instead, lead by example—through the way you speak, the way you live, the love you show, the faith you hold, and the integrity you keep.

1 Timothy 4:12



Respect—Through speech and conduct, fostering a community built on kindness and understanding.



Responsibility—Through love and faith, taking ownership of one's actions, choices, and personal growth.



Resilience—Through integrity, standing firm in truth and perseverance even in life's challenges.

By Living and Learning Together, we cultivate an environment where every individual—both young and old, is valued, every voice is heard, and every heart is strengthened in faith and wisdom.

Collective worship at Danesfield is:

- **Inclusive** – meeting pupils and adults wherever they are on their own faith or belief journey
- **Invitational** – offering opportunities to engage, reflect and respond without compulsion
- **Inspiring** – nurturing curiosity, hope and spiritual growth

This reflects both our Anglican foundation and our commitment to welcoming pupils of all faiths and those of none.

2. Legal Framework

Danesfield Church of England Middle School is a Church of England school within the Diocese of Bath and Wells. As such:

- Collective worship is provided daily and is **in accordance with the tenets and practices of the Church of England**
- Parents and carers retain the right to withdraw their child from collective worship, either wholly or partly, in accordance with legislation

Where a withdrawal is requested, the school will work sensitively with families to ensure appropriate supervision and dialogue.

3. Aims of Collective Worship

Through collective worship, we aim to:

- Enable pupils and adults to **flourish spiritually**, emotionally and morally
- Develop

an understanding of **Christian beliefs, values and the life of Jesus**

Spirituality at Danesfield

At Danesfield school, spirituality is fostered through mindfulness practices, reflective exercises in lessons, and dedicated sessions in PSHE, RE, and collective worship. These opportunities cultivate children's self-awareness, empathy, and understanding of their role in the world, promoting autonomy, compassion, resilience, responsibility, and overall wellbeing.



Spirituality helps us understand ourselves, others, and the world. It builds kindness, responsibility, and inner strength through reflection and moments of quiet.

- Encourage reflection on big questions of meaning, truth and justice

- Promote our core Christian values, including kindness, forgiveness, justice, courage, compassion and service

- Strengthen a sense of **community, belonging and hope**

Collective worship supports pupils' personal development and contributes significantly to the caring, reflective culture of the school noted in SIAMS inspection giving opportunities for moments of spirituality.

4. Character of Worship

Collective worship at Danesfield:

- Is **distinctively Christian**, rooted in biblical narratives and the story of Jesus
- Encourages prayer, stillness, reflection, music and storytelling
- Is accessible, age-appropriate and carefully planned
- Valued as a time for spiritual growth rather than performance or instruction

The school uses **liturgical colours** on the worship table to reflect the seasons of the Church year (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time), helping pupils develop an understanding of the Christian calendar and rhythms of worship

5. Organisation of Collective Worship in Practice

Collective worship is delivered through the Daily Act of Collective Worship (DACT), embedded within tutor time and assemblies. This structured rhythm ensures worship is consistent and central to daily school life and based around 6 core values:



Operational Delivery of DACT

Each school day begins with Tutor Time (8:40–8:50), creating calm, routine and readiness for worship. Time includes registration, uniform and equipment checks, house points and toast collection, promoting responsibility and belonging.

Monday: Assemblies alternating PSHE (Jigsaw – Being Me) and RE (World Faiths).
Tuesday: KS2 tutor reading; KS3 singing worship.

Wednesday: Worship led by Christian visitors, linked to a termly Bible verse; KS3 wellbeing and safeguarding.

Thursday: KS2 singing worship; KS3 tutor reading.

Friday: Celebration assembly recognising Christian values, courage and character, with parents invited.



School Prayer

Dear God,

Thank You for our school,
where we **live and learn together**.
Help us To show **respect** in all we do.
Take **responsibility** for our choices.
And grow with **resilience** each day.

Please help us to grow
into the people You made us to be
And to **lead by example** in Your love.
May our school be a place where every voice is
heard, every person is valued, and every heart is
lifted in hope and faith.
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Living and Learning Together with
Respect Responsibility and Resilience*



DUNDRY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

The Church of England vision for education is for all children to, 'Have life, life in all its fullness.' [John 10:10]. Dundry Primary School's ethos is built on our core Christian values (Trust, Respect, Hope, Kindness, Resilience, and Joy) which are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

Rationale

We believe a daily act of worship, of a mainly Christian character, is a valued time in the day to come together to affirm a sense of belonging and share those things which we hold to be important; to celebrate, praise and give thanks. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988 and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education. We ensure that all assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members on our school community.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in our school and the wider community.

Aims

We aim to enable pupils to reflect on our core Christian values and other values and beliefs to:

- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Jesus
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar
- Encourage the development of spiritual and moral awareness
- Encourage feelings of awe and wonder
- Develop a sense of community
- Develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose
- To explore and reflect on the meaning and purpose of important life issues and to ponder ultimate questions.
- Encourage aesthetic awareness
- Encourage participation and response
- Explore a variety of forms of worship
- Celebrate differences and diversities

Guidelines

At Dundry CE Primary School we meet as a whole school for collective worship at the end of each school day.

Acts of worship usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when appropriate.

The act of worship is led by members of staff, pupils, local church representatives or guest speakers; they are supplied with the information needed to plan a relevant, meaningful and inclusive act of worship. This will include details of the current theme and Christian value.

Pupils are encouraged to see Collective Worship as a special part of their day. There is an expectation that they enter the hall respectfully, engage in the worship and leave the hall quietly. Music is played on entry and exit of pupils. A table, adorned with the appropriately coloured liturgical cloth (white, purple, red or green), hosts three candles (representing the Holy Trinity) to provide a focal point for reflection and contemplation. At the close of worship there is a quiet time for reflection and prayer. The contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer is used at Dundry Primary School.

Weekly Timetable

Monday – celebrating our achievements of the week both inside and outside of school life.

Tuesday – Singing assembly/ Parent or prayer assembly.

Wednesday – Fortnightly alternate reflecting on our school core value of the term or the 'Open the Book' team who lead pupils through a bible story using drama.

Thursday – reflecting on British values and current affairs, sometimes led by classes or pupil voice groups.

Friday – Class based assembly.

Every term classes also offer sharing assemblies where parents and carers are invited to find out more about the class' learning.

Class Teachers are responsible for organising and delivering their own class assemblies in line with the Collective Worship Programme.

Worship will also be shared with the wider Church family at the Parish Church of St Michael the Archangel, and at our Diocesan Cathedral at Wells

Worship will be planned to take account of the major festivals in the Christian calendar, the curriculum framework, including the PSHE programme 'Jigsaw', the Christian value of the term and current affairs. Selected festivals from other religions will also form part of the programme. The Collective Worship coordinator, foundation governor and the vicar aim to meet regularly to link school assemblies to the Church Lectionary. These plans should provide continuity and progression, and an opportunity for children to develop spiritually.

Right to Withdraw

All pupils are expected to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Anyone wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wish in writing to the Head.

Conclusion

Children should see the act of worship as a time when pupils and staff may express joy and thanks, share experiences and concerns, and affirm the values and beliefs of the Church of England school community of which they are a part.

Updated September 2023



FARRINGTON GURNEY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rationale:

We believe a daily act of worship, of a mainly Christian character, is a valued time in the day to come together to affirm a sense of belonging and share those things which we hold to be important; to celebrate, praise and give thanks. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988 and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education.

Aims:

- to encourage children's natural sense of wonder of God's creation and to develop their qualities of curiosity, celebration and gratitude which form the foundation of worship
- to heighten their awareness, and respect for, a range of religious traditions and beliefs
- to respect and value the different beliefs of teachers, parents and children and create an atmosphere in which everyone is included and achievements are celebrated together

Guidelines:

- Collective worship takes place every day.
- Every Tuesday the whole school meets for collective worship, focussing on a Bible story linking to the themes to be covered in church on Sunday. There is a whole school celebration worship every other Friday with a class-based values worship on the other Friday. On Wednesdays there is Key Stage Collective Worship led by the local vicar and one of the foundation governors. On Thursdays, the whole school meets for singing practice which includes songs of worship and concludes with a prayer. On Mondays each class holds its own collective worship which focuses on current affairs.
- The act of worship will be led by members of staff, children, the vicar or by carefully chosen visitors. Visitors will be supplied with the information needed to plan a relevant, meaningful and inclusive act of worship. This will include details of the current theme and Christian value.
- Worship will also be shared with the wider Church family at the Parish Church of St. John's, the local Methodist churches and at our Diocesan Cathedral at Wells
- Worship will be planned to take account of the major festivals in the Christian calendar, the curriculum framework, including the PSHE programme 'Jigsaw', the Christian value of the term and current affairs. Selected festivals from other religions will also form part of the programme. The Collective Worship coordinator, foundation governor and the vicar aim to meet regularly to link school assemblies to the Church Lectionary. These plans should provide continuity and progression, and an opportunity for children to develop spiritually.
- Worship will follow a recognisable format:
 - it will last about 15 minutes
 - there will often be a hymn or song which, wherever possible, will relate to the theme
 - there will be a clear focus and theme developing over time, often involving pupil participation. It may include a story or other kind of presentation such as music, drama or audio-visual
 - there will be a quiet time for reflection or prayer
 - any notices will be clearly separated from the act of worship
- Collective Worship will be inclusive, invitational and inspiring, as outlined in the Church of England guidance document <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/collective-worship-guidance-18052021.pdf>
- Parents have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship - any wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wish in writing to the Headteacher.

Conclusion:

Children should see the act of worship as a time when pupils and staff may express joy and thanks, share experiences and concerns, and affirm the values and beliefs of the Church of England school community of which they are a part.



HIGH LITTLETON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

At High Littleton Church of England Primary School our Christian values are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

These Values are:

- Appreciation
- Peace
- Respect
- Faith
- Endurance
- Hope
- Trust
- Friendship
- Courage
- Compassion
- Tolerance
- Equality

Rationale

It is every child's entitlement to participate in shared experiences of celebration, praise and thanksgiving to God. We distinguish between assembly and worship by recognising that the gathering of the school community in an assembly is educationally important but doesn't have to take place every day, whereas, there does need to be a daily act of worship.

Aims

- To encourage the development of spiritual awareness
- To encourage feelings of awe, wonder and elation
- To develop a sense of community
- To develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose
- To give an opportunity to respond to questions relating to life and beliefs
- To encourage aesthetic awareness
- To explore a variety of forms of worship
- To celebrate differences and diversities

Guidelines

- Collective Worship will be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.
- The worship will be broadly Christian and spiritual.
- Each Thursday, Reverend Adam Pitt will lead Collective Worship.
- Collective Worship should be educational. It should add to the pupils' learning and reflect the purposes and the ethos of the school. It should contribute to the pupils' moral and spiritual development.
- It should have a sense of occasion. A candle is lit throughout the service and a low table displaying a cross and, on occasions, a focus for the theme.
- Each term, one of the school's Christian values is used as a focus for that term.
- An appropriate hymn is sung during Collective Worship.
- There should be a quiet time for reflection and prayer.
- There is a new theme for each week that forms part of a two-year cycle of themes. These themes are a guide and can be added to or amended as circumstances demand. Reference should be made to the theme or to a major festival in the church year.
- Pupils should be helped to see Collective Worship as a special part of their day. They should behave appropriately by coming into the hall, sitting and leaving the hall quietly.
- Music will be played as children enter the church hall.
- The Lord's Prayer is said at the end of Collective Worship.
- During Collective Worship on Fridays, the children's achievements are celebrated by the awarding of certificates for achievements inside and outside school.

Conclusion

Children should see the act of worship as a time when both adults and children may express thankfulness, joy, share concerns and experiences. It is a time to reaffirm the beliefs, values and ethos of the school community and the Christian church of which they are a part.

The Education Reform Act (1988) makes provision for pupils to be withdrawn, and for staff to withdraw from Collective Worship. Parents/Carers wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wishes to the Headteacher in writing.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Personal, Social, Spiritual and Moral Development Policy.

Monitoring

The Headteacher monitors the effectiveness of this policy on a regular basis. The Headteacher also reports to the governing body on the effectiveness of the policy and, if necessary, makes recommendations for further improvements.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.

Review Date: September 2024



Old Cleeve C of E First School Collective Worship Policy

September 2026



'We see remarkable things everyday.' (Luke 5:26)

Our vision underpins everything we do at Old Cleeve First School. Through deep, personal reflections and a focus on our spiritual awareness, we encourage all who attend and visit our school to reflect on our vision and celebrate the 'remarkable things that we see every day.' (Luke 5:26). Whether this is through academic success or a personal challenge, we aim to show these remarkable achievements through our values of 'Achieve, Thrive, Care and Belong.'

Our school aims to serve the community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. We aim for all to be inspired by the stories, songs and prayers that describe the actions of Jesus and his impact on the world. To promote spiritual flourishing, opportunities are offered for individuals to share their experiences and thoughts through Big Questions, Thunks, prayer trees and our remarkable experience boxes, with the understanding that that they have right to share their thoughts freely within a safe environment as set out in Article 13 in the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child. (Sharing Thoughts Freely.) This encourages everybody to celebrate the wonderful thoughts, actions and deeds they have seen within school and the community in a safe, nurturing and supportive environment.

Policy Statement

- Old Cleeve C of E First school is a Church of England academy. Worship is an integral and important part of the school day. Worship allows us to come together as a school community to listen, reflect, pray, and respond to what we have seen, heard and felt. Worship is attended by staff, pupils, visitors to school. All acts of worship are in accordance with Section 389 of the Education Act (1996), whereby Collective Worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Our school Collective Worship policy reflects and reinforces the school's vision. This policy demonstrates the partnership between the conduct and content of the school worship and ethos of the whole school based on the Christian values of 'Achieve, Thrive, Care and Belong.' However, to promote spiritual development, key themes are used to promote our 4 Christian values. These themes known as Old Cleeve Stars, these are allotted to one of our core Christian values. Each Christian Value apart from Achieve is given a full terms reflection. Achieve runs consistently throughout the year.

<u>Christian Values</u>	<u>Themes to Embed Values (Old Cleeve Stars)</u>
Achieve (Whole Year)	Perseverance
Thrive	Justice/Trust

Care	Service/Thankfulness
Belong	Friendship/Compassion

Collective Worship:

- Is planned to be inclusive and inspirational; with a particular focus on our key themes which help individuals to spiritually reflect on our core Christian values.
- Encourages participants to talk, respond and reflect on the core Christian teachings and how this might inform individual relationships and life in school, in relation to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Articles 13 and 14)
- Will regularly include Bible material, hymns, prayers and discussions and on Christian teachings.
- Will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- Will challenge learners of all backgrounds to understand, embark and flourish in their own spiritual journey. Participants should understand the value of listening, prayer and reflection, stillness and response. (Articles 2, 14 and 30)
- Will contribute to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing pupils with opportunities to 'always be on the lookout for the presence of wonder.' (Articles 29, 30 and 31)
- An opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals. (Article 31)
- Collective worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith. (Articles 14 and 30)

• Roles and Responsibilities

Governors

Responsible for ensuring the school is meeting the legal requirements for worship. The law requires the Headteacher, or Principal and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation. Specific requirements are set out at clause 2.8 of the school's Supplemental Funding Agreement.

The Subject Leader

Responsible for planning and organising worship and its associated resources; producing a central interactive worship display each term, based on the current theme; leading the school in ensuring the principles and procedures detailed in this policy are realised in practice; supporting colleagues, as appropriate.

The Headteacher

Responsible for overseeing the work of the subject leader.

The teaching staff and clergy from the local church

Leading collective worship in line with this policy; maintaining the worship reflection area in their classroom; leading their children in reflection at the end of a worship theme, by completing a Class Reflection book and for pupils in KS2 to complete Reflection Journals using the 'Windows, Mirrors, Doors, Candles approach. Each reflection journal focuses on an Old Cleeve Star for each half term; which helps embed our core Christian values.

- **The Planning of Collective Worship**

Collective worship is treated as integral part of the curriculum and is planned, resourced, delivered and evaluated effectively to ensure that we are encouraging participants spirituality to flourish and thrive (Article 29). Old Cleeve has established and built a Long-Term plan for Collective Worship which includes key themes, bible stories/passages, prayers and music that has been allocated to each worship session

Each half term, there is a new theme for Collective worship, which is linked to one of our Christian values. Those leading worship are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme. The themes chosen to represent our Christian values are broad enough to allow all those planning collective worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This will mean that by the end of each week, pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints.

4 . Procedures for Collective Worship.

At Old Cleeve, we hold a daily act of Collective Worship. The organisation for Collective worship can change, but normally it includes: a whole school Collective Worship on a Monday which introduces a key topic or piece of spiritual learning for the week. Afterwards, follows a whole school Collective Worship on Wednesday which introduces the key theme/question for the week using another bible story or context; a class-based worship; worship through song and worship led by the children. On a Friday, we have our school Celebration worship. We place a strong emphasis on celebrating pupils' achievements in relation to the themes that reflect our Christian values and how they have shown these themes through the acts/tasks that they have done.

Worship Themes

Each half term we focus on one theme which helps embed our core Christian values. Those leading worship are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme and follow the schedule provided so there is continuity and progression within the theme. We also recognise that themes chosen for our values are broad enough to allow all who lead worship to approach Collective Worship in different creative manners.

We also recognise and understand that there are occasions where leaders may need to revert from the key theme to respond to local or national events.

Hall Procedures

As children enter the school hall, spiritual music is played from the sound system for children to reflect on the key theme. Worship begins with the opening of 'Peace be with you.' Participants then respond with 'And also with you.' The candle is then lit at the front of the hall. Religious symbols (cross and candles) set the tone for the worship, alongside ensuring the correct liturgical colours are used. Worship consistently has a visual focus with an object, image or word for reflection as pupils enter the hall. Parts of the service have visual cues which link to the

Candle, Mirror, Window, Door approach. Each worship will contain a religious or spiritual focus, a religious or spiritual song and a time for prayer and reflection. Pupils are encouraged to read prayers written in class that reflect the key theme/value for each half term.

Class Worship and Reflection

Once a week, worship takes place in the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on the key theme and story discussed in whole school Collective Worship. Pupils have the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints and this is recorded in Class Reflection books (Articles 12 and 13). Pupils in KS2 have the opportunity to discuss and reflect as a class, but also have the opportunity to independently reflect through individual reflection journals that focus on the 'Window, Door, Mirror Candle' strategy.

Each classroom has an allocated area of worship and reflection to be used during these sessions.

Evaluation of Collective Worship

Evaluation needs to be an integral part of the process of leading worship. We seek to encourage pupils to voice their views on collective worship (Article 12) so they are part of the overall evaluation process.

Monitoring of Collective Worship

We recognise that the monitoring of the planning and provision of worship should be carried out on a regular basis and each class takes it in turns to monitor Worship, recorded in the Worship book. The governors have a key role in this process to ensure that the legal requirements are met and that the worship offered to the pupils is of the highest quality. We have a governors who have a role in ensuring that Collective Worship is conducted in accordance with this policy and meets SIAMS guidelines.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Old Cleeve, we seek to be an inclusive community. However, we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. If any requests are received the school will develop a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from worship. However, no additional work will be set or followed in this time.

Resources

Resources for Collective Worship are stored centrally in the lectern which is in the hall.



SELWOOD ACADEMY – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Rationale

At Selwood Academy we believe Collective Worship should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It helps educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and in developing community and understanding of living well together. Our daily collective worship time is central to the life of our school. We ensure it is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, it is one of the most important aspects of the school curriculum. It is when the school community, or part of it, meets together for reflection. Its potential to nurture a positive ethos that stresses Gospel values in action cannot be underestimated.

The aim of the collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship God and reflect upon values that are based on Gospel Values
- Identify, affirm and celebrate those ideals and values held to be of importance in the worshipping community
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues in response to the worship offered
- Be an important stimulus towards spiritual development

Aims

Collective worship will be of a predominantly Christian nature, reflecting the Academy's Anglican/Methodist foundation and the traditions of the Churches. Pupil's thoughts and understanding about social, cultural, moral and spiritual issues will be stimulated, encouraged and extended through a broad range of themes and a variety of approaches.

Selwood's spirituality definition can be found in (appendix C), Themes (appendix D) these will be added to the calendar at the start of the year however to keep discussions and reflections taking place true to our world (both nationally and locally) sometimes the theme may change depending on what is currently happening in the world. If this does happen staff will be notified and planning provided.

Our Collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship our pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian and other faiths calendar. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

Collective Worship at Selwood Academy aims to:

- Have a pivotal place in the life of the school.
- Support pupils and adults in their spiritual growth
- Be the central vehicle by which the school's vision is unpacked and explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to observe and/or respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity.
- Support pupils in the development of their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.
- Help pupils to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving pupils the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well known Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving.
- Offer opportunities to all pupils and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of the local church community. Pupils will be at the Centre of this process taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading worship.

- Ensure that materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to make sure pupils understand the work of Christians and the church locally, nationally and globally and how this reflects the teachings of the Bible and the example of Jesus.

Objectives

- To take account of the religious provisions of the Trust Deed and other relevant legislation, and of worship guidelines provided by the Anglican and Methodist churches.
- Worship time should be a positive experience for both students and staff.
- To explore social, moral and spiritual values.
- To consider and celebrate the values of the Christian Gospels as well as an understanding of religious beliefs and practices.
- To consider and celebrate the richness of Christianity, and of other faith traditions.
- To develop a sense of community.
- To affirm and develop the individual.
- To offer opportunities for reflection, meditation and prayer.
- To develop a sense of enquiry and to encourage a search for human meaning.
- To foster a sense of joy, awe and wonder in creation.
- To experience the sacred and to develop an awareness of the presence of God in others and in oneself.
- To appreciate symbolism and ritual as aspects of worship.
- To encourage an awareness of and a compassion for the needs of the world community.
- To maintain a biannual cycle of themes which can be developed in a predominantly Christian nature and provide opportunity for reflection.
- To recognise the contribution made by other religions and philosophical thinking to human experience.
- To organise a timetable so that daily collective worship can be conducted in combinations of Year Groups and Tutor Groups.
- To provide guidance on acts of worship in tutor groups.
- To encourage a variety of speakers from within the Academy and the local community to lead daily acts of worship and establish links with the wider community.
- To arrange a special act of collective worship at Harvest, Christmas and Easter and to use Churches in our local community to hold these special acts of worship.

Procedures and Practice

- The Headteacher will be responsible for quality assuring collective worship over the two-year cycle.
- A termly programme of themes and speakers will be published to staff.
- Daily acts of worship will be identified specifically on the timetable.
- A weekly structure will be sent to all staff so the worship time has maximum impact on our pupils and they can follow a journey through the week whilst having sufficient time to reflect and move their thought processes on the subject forwards (appendix A)
- Pastoral team leaders and the senior leadership team will supervise the entry to and exit from acts of collective worship in the Main Hall and Block Hall. This includes ensuring an appropriate atmosphere is set to allow maximum reflection time for the pupils e.g. playing music as pupils enter and exit the hall.
- Guidance and CPD is given to staff on delivering worship time.
- Tutors will implement the guidance on acts of worship when in tutor groups (appendix B)
- To support tutors with this task the liturgical theme of the week will be sent out with the weekly bulletin and resources made available for teachers on the Academy's computer system.
- Worship time should be planned in advance, just as all other curriculum experiences should be. Sessions should be engaging and resources should be carefully thought through to stimulate the minds of the pupils and support positive behaviour.
- Those leading assemblies can seek the advice and support of the school's senior leadership team, especially where there is any concern regarding a specific aspect of the liturgical calendar themes.
- In liaison with the Senior Leadership Team, the Faculty Head of Religion and Philosophy will oversee the organisation of special services when they are arranged.
- In addition to daily collective worship, opportunities for collective worship exist at Selwood Academy through: Welcome Services, End of term celebrations, Harvest, Christmas and Easter events.
- Requests to withdraw from collective worship should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Weekly timetable

- Monday (Y5&Y7) and Thursday (Y6&Y8): Discussion on theme of the week, bible story and silent reflection

- Wednesday (Y5&Y6) and Thursday (Y7&Y8): How the week's theme fits into everyday life and thoughts surrounding this.



SHOSCOMBE CHURCH SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

The Church of England vision for education is for all children to, 'Have life, life in all its fullness.' [John 10:10]. Shoscombe Church Primary School's ethos is built on our core Christian values (Creativity and Wonder, Respect, Aspiration, Joy, Empathy and Resilience) which are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

Rationale

We believe a daily act of worship, of a mainly Christian character, is a valued time in the day to come together to affirm a sense of belonging and share those things which we hold to be important; to celebrate, praise and give thanks. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988 and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education. We ensure that all assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members on our school community.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in our school and the wider community.

Aims

We aim to enable pupils to reflect on our core Christian values and other values and beliefs to:

- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Jesus
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar
- Encourage the development of spiritual and moral awareness
- Encourage feelings of awe and wonder
- Develop a sense of community
- Develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose
- Give an opportunity to respond to questions relating to life and beliefs
- Encourage aesthetic awareness
- Encourage participation and response
- Explore a variety of forms of worship
- Celebrate differences and diversities

Collective Worship

Management

The head teacher is legally responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1988) for arranging the daily collective worship in consultation with the governing body. The collective Worship co-ordinator plans termly themes for the whole school throughout the year.

Organisation

At Shoscombe Church School we meet as a whole school for collective worship at the end of each school day.

Acts of worship usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when appropriate.

The act of worship is led by members of staff, pupils, local church representatives or guest speakers; they are supplied with the information needed to plan a relevant, meaningful and inclusive act of worship. This will include details of the current theme and Christian value.

Pupils are encouraged to see Collective Worship as a special part of their day. There is an expectation that they enter the hall respectfully, engage in the worship and leave the hall quietly. Music is played on entry and exit of pupils. A table, adorned with the appropriately coloured liturgical cloth (white, purple, red or green), hosts three candles (representing the Holy Trinity) to provide a focal point for reflection and contemplation. At the close of worship there is a quiet time for reflection and prayer. The contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer is used at Shoscombe Church School.

Weekly Timetable

Monday – reflecting on our school core value of the term

Tuesday – led by members of our local church

Wednesday – reflecting on British values and current affairs, sometimes led by classes or pupil voice groups

Thursday – alternate weeks are led by our singing teachers or the 'Open the Book' team who lead pupils through a bible story using drama

Friday – celebrating our achievements of the week both inside and outside of school life

Every term classes also offer sharing assemblies where parents and carers are invited to find out more about the class' learning.

Class Teachers are responsible for organising and delivering their own class assemblies in line with the Collective Worship Programme.

Right to Withdraw

All pupils are expected to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Monitoring and Review

The head teacher will liaise with the school governor responsible for religious education and collective worship.

Pupils will monitor the impact of worship time on a weekly basis by completing a simple questionnaire to feed back to individual classes.

All members of the school community are encouraged to contribute to and provide constructive comment on the Collective Worship Programme.



ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL– COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

The Church of England vision for education is educating our children for 'life in all its fullness'. At St John's Church of England Primary School our Christian values are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ; Love, Peace, Wisdom, Hope, Friendship and Honesty. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

Rationale

We believe a daily act of worship provides an opportunity for children to create and participate in shared experiences of celebration, praise and thanksgiving to God in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1998.

Aims

We aim to enable pupils to reflect on our core Christian values and other values and beliefs to:

- Encourage children's natural sense of awe and wonder of God's creation.

- Develop the qualities of curiosity, celebration and gratitude which form the foundation of worship · To develop a sense of community.
- Explore and reflect on the meaning and purpose of important life issues and give an opportunity to respond to questions relating to life and beliefs.
- Develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose.
- Celebrate difference and diversities.
- Explore a variety of forms of worship.
- Encourage participation and response.
- Encourage the development of spiritual and moral awareness.
- Provide aspirations for our children.

Management

The Headteacher is legally responsible (under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1988) for arranging the daily collective worship in consultation with the governing body. The collective worship coordinator plans termly themes for the whole school throughout the year.

Guidelines/Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. At St John's we gather for collective worship each day. Acts of worship usually last for approximately 20 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when appropriate.

Acts of worship are led by SLT, local clergy, staff, pupils and guest speakers.

Weekly Timetable

	Act of Worship	Led By
Monday	Whole school collective worship reflecting on our Christian value of the term	SLT and Pupils
Tuesday	Class worship reflecting on British values, current affairs and big questions.	Staff and Pupils
Wednesday	Whole school collective worship - theme of the week	Local Clergy and Pupils
Thursday	Whole school singing	Staff and Pupils
Friday	Whole school collective worship - theme of the week and celebration Presentation of Christian value awards and stars of the week	SLT

The Act of Worship will follow a recognisable format -

1. Gather

Quiet music is played as the children and staff enter the hall. Pupils should be helped to see collective worship as a

special part of their day. They should behave appropriately by coming into the hall, sitting and leaving quietly.

Worship candle is lit

Candle lighter - "We light this candle in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit." Whole school response "The Lord is here. The Spirit is with us."

Welcome/greeting by lead adult.

2. Engage

Introduction/development of the theme. This may include storytelling, Bible readings, drama and film clips.

3. Respond

Answering questions

Relating theme to elements of their own lives

Music

4. End

Time of reflection and prayer

Quiet music as pupils leave the hall.

Conclusion

Children should see the acts of worship as a time when both adults and children may express thankfulness, joy, share concerns and experiences. It is a time to reaffirm the beliefs, values and ethos of the school community and the Christian family which they are part of.

The Education Reform Act (1998) makes provision for children to be withdrawn from Collective Worship. Parents/Carers wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wishes in writing to the Headteacher.



ST JULIAN'S CHURCH SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

The Church of England vision for education is for all children to, 'Have life, life in all its fullness.' [John 10:10]. St Julian's Church Primary School's ethos is built on our core Christian values (Creativity, Respect, Aspiration, Joy, Kindness and Resilience) which are based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community.

Rationale

We believe a daily act of worship, of a mainly Christian character, is a valued time in the day to come together to affirm a sense of belonging and share those things which we hold to be important; to celebrate, praise and give thanks. This is in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988 and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education. We ensure that all assemblies are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of our school community.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in our school and the wider community.

Aims

We aim to enable pupils to reflect on our core Christian values and other values and beliefs to:

- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Jesus
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar
- Encourage the development of spiritual and moral awareness
- Encourage feelings of awe and wonder
- Develop a sense of community
- Develop a sense of meaning, value and purpose
- Give an opportunity to respond to questions relating to life and beliefs
- Encourage aesthetic awareness
- Encourage participation and response
- Explore a variety of forms of worship
- Celebrate differences and diversities

Collective Worship

Management

The head teacher is legally responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1988) for arranging the daily collective worship in consultation with the governing body. The collective Worship co-ordinator plans termly themes for the whole school throughout the year.

Organisation

At St Julian's Church School we meet as a whole school for collective worship at the end of each school day.

Acts of worship usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when appropriate.

The act of worship is led by members of staff, pupils, local church representatives or guest speakers; they are supplied with the information needed to plan a relevant, meaningful and inclusive act of worship. This will include details of the current theme and Christian value.

Pupils are encouraged to see Collective Worship as a special part of their day. There is an expectation that they enter the hall respectfully, engage in the worship and leave the hall quietly. Music is played on entry and exit of pupils. A table, adorned with the appropriately coloured liturgical cloth (white, purple, red or green), hosts three candles (representing the Holy Trinity) to provide a focal point for reflection and contemplation. At the close of worship there is a quiet time for reflection and prayer. The contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer is used at St Julian's Church School.

Weekly Timetable

- Monday – reflecting on our school core value of the term, British values and current affairs, sometimes led by classes or pupil voice group.

- Tuesday – led by members of our local church at St Julian's church.
- Wednesday – singing worship.
- Thursday – the weeks alternate between class collective worship and the 'Open the Book' team who lead pupils through a Bible story using drama.
- Friday – celebrating our achievements of the week both inside and outside of school life.

Every term classes also offer sharing assemblies where parents and carers are invited to find out more about the class' learning.

Class Teachers are responsible for organising and delivering their own class assemblies in line with the Collective Worship Programme.

Right to Withdraw

All pupils are expected to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Monitoring and Review

The head teacher will liaise with the school governor responsible for religious education and collective worship.

Pupils will monitor the impact of worship time on a regular basis by completing a simple questionnaire to feed back to individual classes.

All members of the school community are encouraged to contribute to and provide constructive comment on the Collective Worship Programme.



ST MARK'S SECONDARY SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Aims/Rationale

St Mark's School is committed to planning Collective Worship that includes: Church Liturgical Year; School Values and Spiritual Intervention Opportunities and that:

- Fosters a sense of community
- Expresses the school's Christian vision and values
- Remains a relevant and essential component of education that enables all pupils to flourish and to 'let your light shine' Matthew 5.16

We support the Church of England statement below:

- We want pupils to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with Jesus Christ and with Christian faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives.
- Collective worship in schools, including prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity, provide a vital opportunity for this.

We seek to ensure that all CW is Inclusive; Invitational and Inspiring and support the Church of England aims of Collective Worship as below:

- Explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues. In doing so, it will reflect on moral values such as compassion, gratitude, justice, humility, forgiveness and reconciliation; and develop virtues such as resilience, determination and creativity that develop character and contribute to academic progress.
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enables all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

Guidelines - Termly Programme

The termly planning matrix will be used to plan collective worship as per the principles above. It must be adhered to unless agreed in advance by the Chaplain.

The termly planning matrix highlights the structure that Collective Worship must adhere to and includes the following:

- Reading of the Peace prayer and lighting of the candle
- The theme
- Biblical link
- Act of Kindness
- Intended outcomes
- Daily prayer unless alternative prayer is used which links to the theme

Part of the role of the Chaplain is to support staff with the biblical link and prayer that forms an important part of the weekly Collective Worship.

Student Participation in Collective Worship

- Students play an important role in delivering Collective Worship via:
- Reading of the Peace prayer
- Lighting of the candle
- Running the IT
- Putting away the chairs afterwards
- Supporting the Chaplain in evaluating worship

Requests to withdraw from Collective Worship

Requests to withdraw from collective worship should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Evaluation of Worship

The Chaplain will ensure that Collective Worship is regularly evaluated through:

- Regular dialogue with students. This will be used to develop Collective Worship content, delivery and themes
- Feedback to staff members delivering collective worship
- Involving governors in the planning and evaluation of collective worship via Governors' Christian Vision meetings

Personal Development Programme

Assemblies

Generally, students will attend one Assembly once per week with their Head of Key Stage / Assistant Headteacher. The Assemblies will be planned via British Values, aspects of SMSC provision and other wider curriculum topics

Year Group Assemblies

Year Group Assemblies will take place on an ad hoc basis and be arranged by the Heads of Key Stage. These will tend to be focussed on year specific issues such as Careers and Options and either year based priorities.

Tutor Group Activities

Tutor groups will participate in a set tutor programme across the week. This will involve the following:

Key Stage 3

- Register and messages via Tutor Briefing
- Uniform and Planner check
- Guided reading x3 sessions
- Daily dismissal prayer

Key Stage 4

- Register and messages via Tutor Briefing
- Uniform and Planner check
- Personal development focused on Careers x3 sessions / Revision / Reading
- Daily dismissal prayer

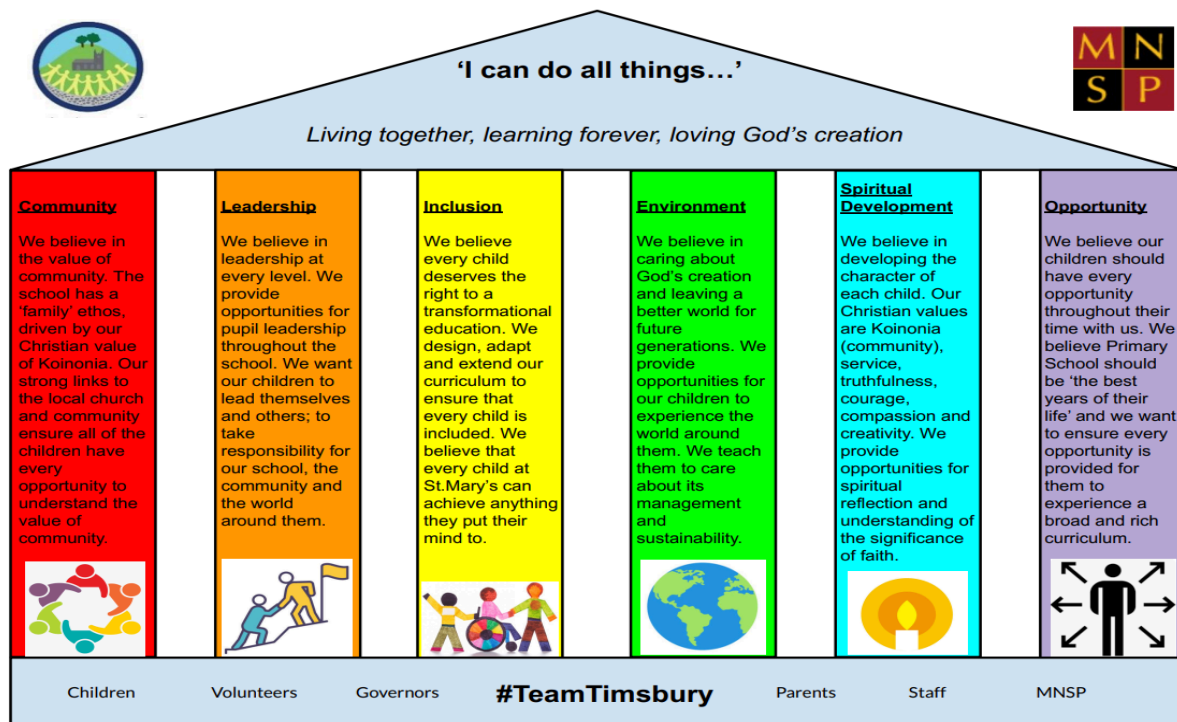
Daily Prayer

This will be written by the Chaplain and shared with Tutors so that they can deliver a daily prayer with their tutor groups.



ST MARY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL – COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me...” (Philippians 4:13)



Introduction

At St Mary's our daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a time when we come together to worship God, reflect, celebrate and share all aspects of our lives, including our spiritual journey. The worship of the school is based on promoting Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contribution of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors is highly valued.

Our core Christian values are: **Compassion, Courage, Creativity, Koinonia, Service and Truthfulness.**

We follow the Church of England's Guidance on Collective Worship, ensuring that it is **Inclusive, Invitational** and **Inspiring** - [Collective Worship Guidance 18052021.pdf \(churchofengland.org\)](https://www.churchofengland.org/media/1021/Collective-Worship-Guidance-18052021.pdf)

Aims and purpose

The aims and purpose of collective worship are: to provide an opportunity for the school community to worship God together; to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues; to enable children to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response; to develop in children a sense of community spirit; to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes; to teach children about Christian worship practices and an understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinity.

We start each Collective Worship by lighting the candle as a symbol of the special time that we spend together. The person leading the worship then says 'Living Together', with KS1 saying 'Learning Forever' and KS2 saying 'Loving God's Creation'. Followed by a chorus of 'I can do all things!' We use a four-part structure to our worship: Gather together, Engage together, Respond together, Leaving together.

We have 'Worship Champions', which consists of 1 child from each class who have a special badge and sit on chairs in worship, making notes about what they are learning/is being discussed, in their Worship Champion books. The member of staff delivering the whole class worship will also provide the champion with something to add to their books, which may be an image used, a biblical quote, or the prayer which was said. Over time, the class worship books build up a record, which the children can look back through to remind them of the worships they have taken part in.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school, as detailed below:

	Focus	Leader
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Monday	Whole school worship: Based on value of the term and finishing with a 'Big Question'	SLT
Tuesday	Class worship – following Monday's CW and based on the value of the term.	Class teacher
Wednesday	Whole school worship: Linking our value of the term with current affairs, using the 'Picture News' resource.	SLT
Thursday	Singing Worship	AP/KT
Friday	Celebration Worship - an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements, both in and out of school.	SLT

We conduct worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings and to reflect upon them, and to participate in prayer, hymns and songs in a manner appropriate to the occasion and their individual identity. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using a cross, music and candles and other objects and spiritual aids which act as focal points for the attention of the children. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship - any wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wish in writing to the Head.

Christian Values by term

Christian Value Focus by Term			Biblical links	
Term	Calendar	2026/7	Key Bible Stories	Bible verse
1	Harvest	Koinonia	Prodigal Son	Matthew 18:20
2	Advent /Christmas	Compassion	Nativity Story	Colossians 3:12
3		Courage	David and Goliath	Joshua 1:9
4	Lent/ Easter	Truthfulness	The Easter Story	Zechariah 8:16
5		Service	Good Samaritan	Galatians 5:13
6	Pentecost	Creativity	Creation Story	Genesis 1:1



Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and the school prayer. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. The prayers are invitational, with pupils and adults only being invited to pray if they wish to do so, and to do so in their own way. Prayer is always accompanied by the option to reflect.

There are Reflection spaces in each classroom, as well as in our nurture room, The Lodge. Children can use these spaces if they wish to write a personal prayer or need a moment to reflect during the school day.

Dear God

Thank you for our school and everyone within it.

*In the spirit of St Mary, teach us to show **compassion** and tell the **truth**.*

*Give us **courage** and **creativity** to learn and grow.*

*Help us to give **service** to our **community**.*

Amen



Visits and Visitors

As part of the curriculum, St Mary's CE Primary ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship. Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge. St Mary's Church in Timsbury is our most valuable and frequently used resource but our children have also visited the other 3 churches within Timsbury, Bath Abbey and Wells Cathedral.

Each term, a different class volunteers to lead collective worship for the whole school, with their parents invited into school for this occasion. Reverend Blewett joins us each month to lead our collective worship, and we also invite in other visitors.

Example Termly overview

Collective Worship Overview Term 1 2026



Koinonia	Monday <i>JT</i>	Tuesday <i>Class</i>	Wednesday <i>JW</i>	Thursday <i>Singing - AP</i>	Friday
WB 07.09.26	Welcome Back (JT) Koinonia 1	Welcome Back Follow up Big Q- Koinonia	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 14.09.26	Jeans for Genes (JT)	Jeans for Genes - follow up	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 21.09.26	Pupil Leadership	Pupil leadership	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 28.09.26	Black History Month Wear Red for Racism (MG) -equalities	Follow up Big Question	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 05.10.26	Mental Health - Hello Yellow (BR)	Follow on Big Question	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 12.10.26	Koinonia 2 Prodigal son	Follow on Big Question Story recap	Picture News	Singing assembly	Celebration assembly
WB 13.10.26	Singing assembly -Harvest	Singing assembly- Harvest	Church Service- Harvest (Foxes)	INSET	INSET

New Testament Key Story: The Prodigal Son **Old Testament Key Story:** Joseph **Key Festival:** Harvest (Foxes)

Key Text: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:12

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the Collective Worship co-ordinator and will be based upon discussions with other members of staff, observation of acts of worship and re-evaluation of Collective Worship plans. The outcome of the review will influence the future school development plan.

Reviewed September 2026

St Michael's C of E First School Collective Worship Policy

September 2026

***'Live Life in its Fullness.'* (John 10:10)**



Our vision underpins everything we do at St Michael's. Inspired by the words of Jesus in John 10:10, we seek to create a community where every child is encouraged and supported to live life in all its fullness. We believe that every individual is uniquely created by God, with gifts, talents and potential that deserve to be nurtured and celebrated.

At St Michael's, we are committed to providing an environment where children flourish academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. We encourage our school community to embrace opportunities, face challenges with courage, and develop a strong sense of purpose and hope. Through our Christian foundation, we aim to inspire children to become confident learners, compassionate citizens, and responsible members of society.

Living life in its fullness means recognising that success is about more than achievement alone. It is about developing strong relationships, showing love and respect to others, finding joy in learning, and understanding that everyone has a place within our community. We want every child to leave St Michael's with the knowledge, confidence and character needed to make a positive difference in the world.

We are an inclusive school that warmly welcomes children, families and staff of all faiths and none. Our Christian vision guides our work while respecting and celebrating the diversity of our school community

Policy Statement

- St Michael's C of E First school is a Church of England academy. Worship is an integral and important part of the school day. Worship allows us to come together as a school community to listen, reflect, pray, and respond to what we have seen, heard and felt. Worship is attended by staff, pupils, visitors to school. All acts of worship are in accordance with Section 389 of the Education Act (1996), whereby Collective Worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Our school Collective Worship policy reflects and reinforces the school's vision. This policy demonstrates the partnership between the conduct and content of the school worship and ethos of the whole school based on the Christian values of 'Achieve, Thrive, Love and Belong.' However, to promote spiritual development, key themes are used to promote our 4 Christian values. These themes known as St Michael's Stars, these are allotted to one of our core Christian values. Each Christian Value apart from Achieve is given a full terms reflection. Achieve runs consistently throughout the year.

<u>Christian Values</u>	<u>Themes to Embed Values (St Michael's Stars)</u>
Achieve (Whole Year)	Perseverance
Thrive	Justice/Trust

Care	Service/Thankfulness
Belong	Friendship/Compassion

Collective Worship:

- Is planned to be inclusive and inspirational; with a particular focus on our key themes which help individuals to spiritually reflect on our core Christian values.
- Encourages participants to talk, respond and reflect on the core Christian teachings and how this might inform individual relationships and life in school
- Will regularly include Bible material, hymns, prayers and discussions and on Christian teachings.
- Will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- Will challenge learners of all backgrounds to understand, embark and flourish in their own spiritual journey. Participants should understand the value of listening, prayer and reflection, stillness and response.
- Will contribute to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing pupils with opportunities to 'always be on the lookout for the presence of wonder.'
- An opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Collective worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

• Roles and Responsibilities

Governors

Responsible for ensuring the school is meeting the legal requirements for worship. The law requires the Headteacher, or Principal and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation. Specific requirements are set out at clause 2.8 of the school's Supplemental Funding Agreement.

The Subject Leader

Responsible for planning and organising worship and its associated resources; producing a central interactive worship display each term, based on the current theme; leading the school in ensuring the principles and procedures detailed in this policy are realised in practice; supporting colleagues, as appropriate.

The Headteacher

Responsible for overseeing the work of the subject leader.

The teaching staff and clergy from the local church

Leading collective worship in line with this policy; maintaining the worship reflection area in their classroom; leading their children in reflection at the end of a worship theme, by

completing a Class Reflection book and for pupils in KS2 to complete Reflection Journals using the 'Windows, Mirrors, Doors, Candles approach. Each reflection journal focuses on an Old Cleeve Star for each half term; which helps embed our core Christian values.

- **The Planning of Collective Worship**

Collective worship is treated as integral part of the curriculum and is planned, resourced, delivered and evaluated effectively to ensure that we are encouraging participants spirituality to flourish and thrive. St Michael's has established and built a Long-Term plan for Collective Worship which includes key themes, bible stories/passages, prayers and music that has been allocated to each worship session

Each half term, there is a new theme for Collective worship, which is linked to one of our Christian values. Those leading worship are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme. The themes chosen to represent our Christian values are broad enough to allow all those planning collective worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This will mean that by the end of each week, pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints.

4 . Procedures for Collective Worship.

At St Michael's, we hold a daily act of Collective Worship. The organisation for Collective worship can change, but normally it includes: a whole school Collective Worship on a Monday which introduces a key topic or piece of spiritual learning for the week. Afterwards, follows a whole school Collective Worship on Wednesday which introduces the key theme/question for the week using another bible story or context; a class-based worship; worship through song and worship led by the children. On a Friday, we have our school Celebration worship. We place a strong emphasis on celebrating pupils' achievements in relation to the themes that reflect our Christian values and how they have shown these themes through the acts/tasks that they have done.

Worship Themes

Each half term we focus on one theme which helps embed our core Christian values. Those leading worship are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme and follow the schedule provided so there is continuity and progression within the theme. We also recognise that themes chosen for our values are broad enough to allow all who lead worship to approach Collective Worship in different creative manners.

We also recognise and understand that there are occasions where leaders may need to revert from the key theme to respond to local or national events.

Hall Procedures

As children enter the school hall, spiritual music is played from the sound system for children to reflect on the key theme. Worship begins with the opening of 'Peace be with you.' Participants then respond with 'And also with you.' The candle is then lit at the front of the hall. Religious symbols (cross and candles) set the tone for the worship, alongside ensuring the correct liturgical colours are used. Worship consistently has a visual focus with an object, image or word for reflection as pupils enter the hall. Parts of the service have visual cues which link to the Candle, Mirror, Window, Door approach. Each worship will contain a religious or spiritual focus,

a religious or spiritual song and a time for prayer and reflection. Pupils are encouraged to read prayers written in class that reflect the key theme/value for each half term.

Class Worship and Reflection

Once a week, worship takes place in the classroom. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on the key theme and story discussed in whole school Collective Worship. Pupils have the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints and this is recorded in Class Reflection books. Pupils in KS2 have the opportunity to discuss and reflect as a class, but also have the opportunity to independently reflect through individual reflection journals that focus on the 'Window, Door, Mirror Candle' strategy.

Each classroom has an allocated area of worship and reflection to be used during these sessions.

Evaluation of Collective Worship

Evaluation needs to be an integral part of the process of leading worship. We seek to encourage pupils to voice their views on collective worship (Article 12) so they are part of the overall evaluation process.

Monitoring of Collective Worship

We recognise that the monitoring of the planning and provision of worship should be carried out on a regular basis and each class takes it in turns to monitor Worship, recorded in the Worship book. The governors have a key role in this process to ensure that the legal requirements are met and that the worship offered to the pupils is of the highest quality. We have a governors who have a role in ensuring that Collective Worship is conducted in accordance with this policy and meets SIAMS guidelines.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Old Cleeve, we seek to be an inclusive community. However, we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. If any requests are received the school will develop a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from worship. However, no additional work will be set or followed in this time.

Resources

Resources for Collective Worship are stored centrally in the lectern which is in the hall.



Collective Worship Policy

June 2025

“Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs”
Psalm
100:2

Written by:	Maida White
Date:	June 2025
Review date:	June 2028

Policy Context and Rationale

This policy forms part of St Peter's Church of England First School's overall strategy and is implemented within the context of the school's Christian vision, *Love, Learn, Flourish*, and the aims set out in its Instrument of Government. Collective worship is a central expression of the school's identity as a Church of England school and plays a vital role in the daily life of the community.

The policy has been formally adopted by the governing body following consultation with staff and governors and is reviewed on a three-year cycle. It reflects the school's Ethos Statement and the *Guiding Hand of St Peter*, rooted in the biblical teaching "Let all that you do be done in love" (1 Corinthians 16:13–14). The Christian foundation of the school ensures that spiritual development and the lived expression of Christian values are at the heart of the whole life of the school.

In accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and in partnership with the parish and diocesan community, St Peter's seeks to nurture pupils who know they are loved, valued and cared for. Collective worship provides a distinct and valued time for pupils and adults to gather as a community to worship God, offering space for stillness, reflection and prayer. Through worship, pupils are supported to explore faith, values and meaning, to grow in moral discernment, and to develop the confidence to make responsible and compassionate choices. In this way, collective worship supports the school's aim to provide an education of the highest quality, grounded in Christian belief and practice, enabling all pupils to flourish.

"Train up a child in the way they should go; even when they are old, they will not depart from it."
**Proverbs
22:6**

Aims of Collective Worship

Collective worship at St Peter's aims to:

- Affirm the presence of God through prayerful, reflective and celebratory worship that is rooted in the Christian faith.
- Enable pupils to flourish spiritually by developing a sense of identity, belonging, hope and personal worth.
- Support pupils to live out the school's vision *Love, Learn, Flourish* through the exploration of biblical teaching and Christian values.
- Provide a calm, reflective space within the school day, allowing pupils time to think deeply, ask questions and respond thoughtfully to worship themes.
- Encourage positive relationships, compassion and cooperation, helping pupils to live well together within the school community and beyond.

Objectives of Collective Worship

Through collective worship, St Peter's Church of England First School seeks to:

- Ensure that the Christian vision *Love, Learn, Flourish* is clearly articulated, intentionally modelled and consistently lived out within the daily life of the school community.
- Place the biblical foundation "Let all that you do be done in love" (1 Corinthians 16:13–14) at the heart of worship, enabling pupils and adults to understand the Christian origins of the school's values and how these shape everyday choices and relationships.
- Enable pupils to flourish as individuals by nurturing their sense of identity, belonging, dignity and hope,

so that they know they are loved, valued and cared for as unique children of God.

- Support pupils to develop wisdom, character and moral discernment, equipping them to make thoughtful, compassionate and responsible decisions in their lives and learning.



- Provide a coherent and inclusive worship experience that respects difference, encourages reflection, and invites all pupils to engage with faith in ways that are appropriate to their background, belief and stage of development.
- Ensure that collective worship contributes to a strong, shared Christian culture, strengthening relationships, promoting justice, forgiveness and reconciliation, and enabling the whole school community to live well together.
- Embed reflective practice and pupil voice within worship, so that worship continues to evolve in response to the needs of the school community and remains a meaningful expression of the school's Christian vision.

Principles of Collective Worship

At St Peter's Church of England First School, collective worship is guided by the following principles: •

- Collective worship takes place daily, providing a regular and reliable opportunity for the whole school community, or year groups, to gather in worship as an expression of the school's Christian identity.
- Worship is inclusive and invitational, encouraging participation through active involvement, attentive listening and quiet reflection, while respecting the integrity, beliefs and backgrounds of all pupils.
- Acts of collective worship are carefully planned to be relevant, meaningful and age-appropriate, enabling a range of responses from stillness and personal reflection to praise and celebration.
- In accordance with statutory requirements for Church of England schools, the majority of acts of collective worship are wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, rooted in biblical teaching and Christian tradition, and shaped by the school's vision *Love, Learn, Flourish*.
- Worship engages both the imaginative and reflective dimensions of pupils' spiritual development, supporting them to explore big questions of meaning, purpose and faith, rather than focusing on the acquisition of factual knowledge alone.
- Collective worship is distinct from other types of assemblies and is planned and structured intentionally.

Planning of Collective Worship

Collective worship at St Peter's is planned in advance to ensure coherence, progression and consistency, and is overseen by the Headteacher in line with the school's Christian vision, *Love, Learn, Flourish*.

Worship planning takes account of major festivals in the Church year and, where appropriate, links with learning across the wider curriculum. Acts of collective worship are designed to create a sense of occasion and reverence, supporting pupils to engage reflectively and respectfully. Attention is given to the physical environment and the tone of worship, helping pupils to recognise worship as distinct from other

assemblies.

Acts of collective worship are generally planned to last approximately fifteen minutes and use a variety of approaches to evoke awe, wonder, reflection, praise and thanksgiving. These may include music and singing, biblical stories, drama, artefacts, visual stimuli and opportunities for stillness or prayer. Worship is planned with a clear focus and, where appropriate, includes pupil participation.

Staff contribute to collective worship in a range of ways and are supported to do so according to their role and confidence. New hymns and songs are introduced and practised to support meaningful participation in worship. Collective worship is planned to be inclusive and age-appropriate. Foundation Stage pupils begin to attend whole-school worship when it is appropriate to their stage of development. All worship provides opportunities for quiet reflection or prayer, enabling pupils to respond in ways that respect their own beliefs and experiences. Worship also takes place within the wider Christian community, including services held at St Peter's Church in Williton. Parents and carers are invited to attend sharing worship and church services throughout the year, strengthening relationships between home, school and parish.

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Collective Worship Policy June 2025



Throughout the school day, additional opportunities for prayer and reflection are provided, including within class worship and at informal times, reinforcing the significance of worship within the whole life of the school.

Parental Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child wholly or partly from collective worship (School Standards and Framework Act 1998, s.71; DfE: *Religious education (RE) and collective worship in academies and free schools*). At St Peter's, collective worship is planned to be inclusive, invitational and respectful, enabling pupils of all backgrounds and beliefs to participate with dignity and integrity, while maintaining the Christian character of the school. Parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns with the Headteacher so that the nature and purpose of collective worship can be explained clearly and sensitively, and so that mutual understanding can be reached where possible.

Where a request for withdrawal is made, the school will make appropriate arrangements for the supervision of the pupil during the time of collective worship. While there is no requirement to provide alternative teaching during this time, the school retains responsibility for the pupil's safety and wellbeing (School Standards and Framework Act 1998; DfE guidance on collective worship).

The school seeks to work in partnership with parents, recognising their responsibility for guiding their child's beliefs, while continuing to uphold the statutory and Christian foundation of the school's collective worship.

Responsibilities

The governing body holds overall responsibility for ensuring that collective worship is provided in line with statutory requirements and reflects the school's Christian vision and ethos. The foundation trustee supports this role through oversight, monitoring and active engagement with collective worship.

The Headteacher, who is also the Collective Worship Co-ordinator, is responsible for:

- overseeing the planning, organisation and development of collective worship

- ensuring that collective worship reflects the school's Christian vision, Love, Learn, Flourish
- reviewing and updating the Collective Worship Policy in line with statutory guidance
- supporting staff and visitors who lead collective worship
- leading and contributing to the monitoring and evaluation of collective worship to inform ongoing improvement

In this role, the Headteacher ensures that collective worship remains a central and distinctive aspect of the life of the school and that it makes a meaningful contribution to pupils' spiritual development and flourishing.

Conclusion

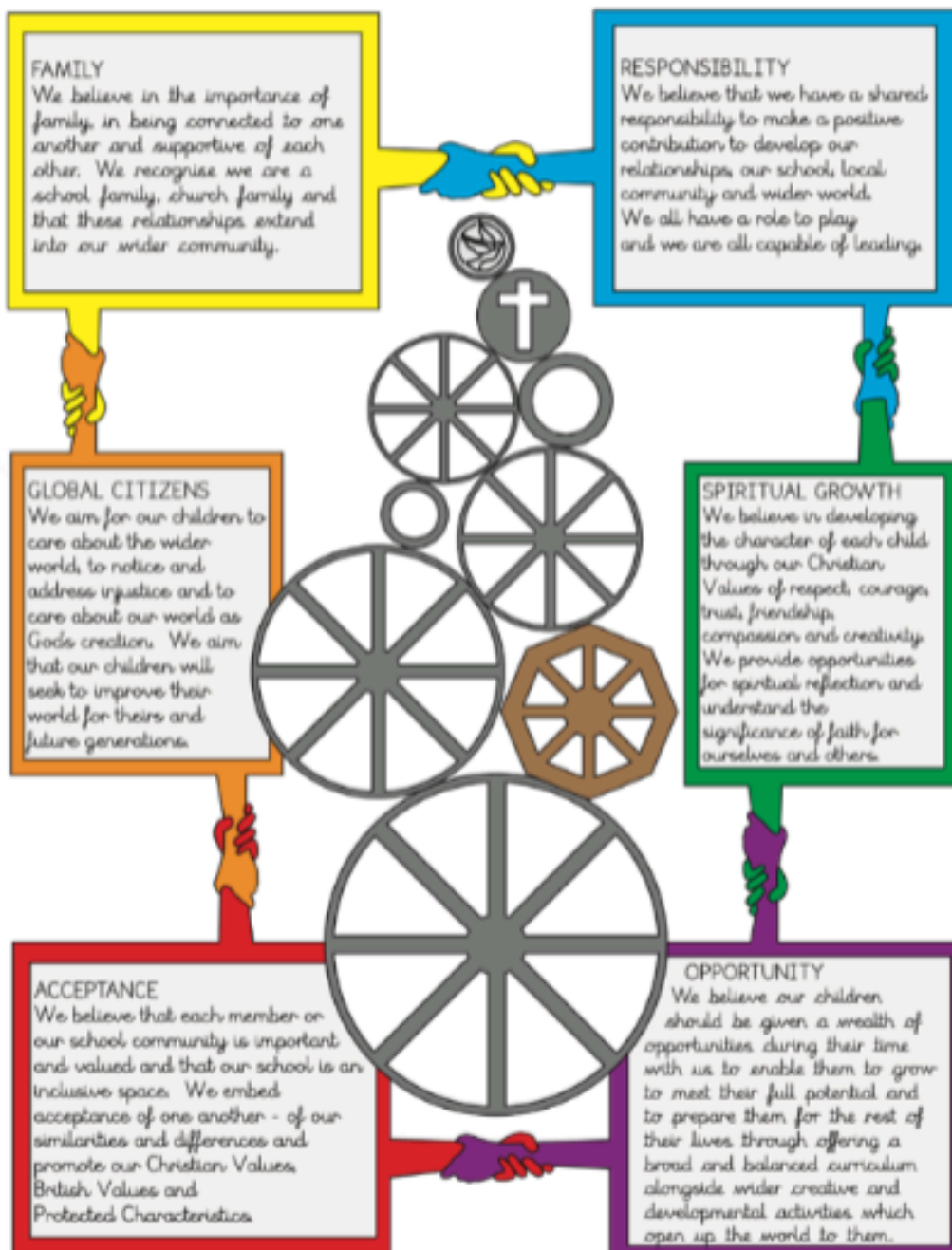
Collective worship at St Peter's brings staff and pupils together as a caring Christian community to respond to God through praise, prayer, reflection and thanksgiving. It provides meaningful opportunities to celebrate achievement, to reflect on the needs of others, and to explore values that shape how we live and learn together. Through collective worship, pupils are supported to grow in understanding, compassion and responsibility, enabling them to live out the school's vision to love generously, learn deeply and flourish as individuals within the love of Christ.



Learning Growing Believing Together

“Encourage one another and build each other up.”

Thessalonians 5:11



Introduction

The Church of England vision for education is educating our children for 'life in all its fullness'. At Trinity Church School our daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a time when we come together to worship God, reflect, celebrate and share all aspects of our lives, including our spiritual journey. The worship of the school is based on promoting Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. Our core Christian values are: **Friendship, Respect, Trust, Compassion, Courage, Creativity**. These values are embedded in the daily life of the school and have a significant impact on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community. This is supported by the contribution of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors.

We follow the Church of England's Guidance on Collective Worship, ensuring that it is **Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring** - [Collective Worship Guidance 18052021.pdf \(churchofengland.org\)](https://www.churchofengland.org/collective-worship-guidance-18052021.pdf)

Aims and purpose

The aims and purpose of collective worship are: to provide an opportunity for the school community to worship God together; to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues; to enable children to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response; to develop in children a sense of community spirit; to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes; to teach children about Christian worship practices and an understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinity.

Our school vision is at the centre of our Collective Worship.

Family – We gather together at the start of the day in Collective Worship as the family of Trinity School. We develop relationships with our local church leaders, and wider visitors and invite parents to join with us during times of celebration (Easter, Christmas for class and leavers celebrations).

Responsibility – We encourage pupils to be Worship Leaders both in our whole school collective worship and in our class collective worships. All children are encouraged to participate and have a responsibility to engage.

Spiritual Growth – through our time together we reflect on how our school values can develop our characters and explore who we are and what we care about. We link this with an in, out, up understanding of spirituality. Who we are (in) how we interact with others (out) and how this connects with God (up) through our faith.

Global Citizens – we aim to 'open up' the world by exploring celebrations and stories of faith from around the world and by investigating current affairs. We look at how global affairs link with us and the role we can play in making positive changes.

Opportunity – Children have the opportunity to explore, engage, reflect and challenge through our Collective Worship sessions. We aim to offer children opportunities to extend their Collective Worship by visiting different places of worship including visiting our local church, local places of worship of different faiths, Westminster Abbey and participating in services at Bath Abbey and Wells Cathedral. We offer opportunities to join with other schools through joining with live assemblies with Picture News and national charities and to join in with fundraising and awareness days.

Acceptance – through our collective worship we explore how we relate and understand others and promote diversity. This is explored through exploring Global and National festivals and awareness days which include Black History Month, National ADHD, Dyslexia and Autism Awareness days. We have invited visitors including the education liaison support worker for the Romany, Gypsy & Traveller community. We aim to ensure all in our school and beyond are represented positively and understood.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school, as detailed below:

	Focus	Leader
--	-------	--------

Monday	Whole school worship: reflecting on our PSHE area of focus, British values and current affairs, considering awareness days and	SLT
Tuesday	Whole school Worship – Reflecting on our termly Christian value and developing our understanding of diversity.	SLT
Wednesday	Class worship: Linking our value of the term with current affairs, using the ‘Picture News’ resource.	Class teacher
Thursday	Singing Worship	SLT / Music Specialist
Friday	Celebration Worship - an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements, both in and out of school.	SLT

Our termly focuses are:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Christian Value	Friendship 	Respect 	Trust 	Compassion 	Courage 	Creativity 
British Value	Individual Liberty	Tolerance	Democracy	Mutual Respect	Rule of Law	Individual Liberty
PSHE / Jigsaw Focus	Being Me In My World	Celebrating Difference	Dreams and Goals	Healthy Me	Relationships	Changing Me

We start each Collective Worship by lighting 3 candles reflecting the Trinity connecting with our school name and as a symbol of the special time that we spend together. Our class worship leaders take on this role saying “We have gathered in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to worship together and think about our value ____”. Pupils then share the school prayer together, which focuses us at the start of the day on our Christian Values



We use a four-part structure to our worship: Gather together, Engage together, Respond together, Leaving together.

Our collective worship closes with the pupil worship leaders blowing out the candles and saying:

“As we blow out this candle and go back to our class we remember that we are: “

The whole school joins in with our school vision “**Learning, Growing, Believing Together**”.

This connects our daily collective worship with the remainder of our school day.

Each term there will be Collective Worship led by: Y6 Worship Leaders, a class, Reverend Ian Roussell / Reverend Nathaniel Worsely from St Nicholas Church, Radstock part of the Waterside Benefice.

Worship will be planned to take account of the major festivals in the Christian calendar, the curriculum framework, including the PSHE programme 'Jigsaw', the Christian value and focus British Value of the term and current affairs. Selected festivals from other religions will also form part of the programme. Our school ethos of 'acceptance' is woven throughout collective worship encouraging a developing understanding of diversity and through this developing a connection with others.

The Collective Worship lead ensures regular and appropriate training for those that lead collective worship – this includes our pupil worship leaders.

Right to Withdraw

All pupils are expected to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Anyone wishing to exercise this right are asked to express their wish in writing to the Head.

Visits and Visitors

As part of the curriculum, Trinity Church School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship. Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge. St Nicholas Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource but opportunities are provided for our children to visit wider places of worship including Bath Abbey and Westminster Abbey and Wells Cathedral.

Management

The Headteacher is legally responsible (under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1988) for arranging the daily collective worship in consultation with the governing body. The collective worship coordinator plans termly themes for the whole school throughout the year.

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the Collective Worship co-ordinator and will be based upon discussions with other members of staff, observation of acts of worship and re-evaluation of Collective Worship plans. The outcome of the review will influence the future school development plan.

Reviewed September 2024



TRINITY FIRST SCHOOL - COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Introduction

This policy outlines the arrangements for Collective Worship at Trinity First CofE VC School, a Church of England Voluntary Controlled (VC) school. As a VC school, we maintain a Christian ethos and are committed to providing Collective Worship that is consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England, while remaining inclusive and sensitive to the backgrounds of all pupils.

Legal Framework

Collective Worship in VC schools is a statutory requirement under the Education Act 1988 and must:

- Be provided daily for all registered pupils (except those withdrawn by parents).
- Reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief
- Be appropriate for all pupils, regardless of faith background.
- Be primarily Christian in character, but inclusive in approach.

Aims of Collective Worship

At Trinity First CofE VC School, the aims of Collective Worship are to:

- Provide the opportunity for pupils to experience worship in a Christian context.
- Encourage a sense of awe, wonder, and reflection.
- Promote spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.
- Foster a sense of community and belonging within the school.
- Support the school's Christian ethos and values (curiosity, kindness, respect, resilience, teamwork)
- Encourage pupil participation and voice.

Organisation of Collective Worship

- Collective Worship takes place daily, either as a whole school, in key stages, or class groups.
- Worship is led by:
 - The Headteacher
 - Teaching staff
 - Local clergy or church visitors
- Worship may include:
 - A Biblical story or theme
 - Prayer and reflection
 - Hymns or songs
 - Opportunities for stillness and silence
 - Celebration of Christian festivals (e.g., Harvest, Christmas, Easter)
 - Education around non-Christian festivals

Themes and Planning

- Collective Worship is planned around Christian values and the liturgical calendar.
- A worship planner is developed termly.
- Flexibility is built in to respond to current events or pastoral needs.
- Non-Christian beliefs and celebrations are also included, some of which link to our RE curriculum

Inclusion and Withdrawal

- Worship is inclusive and designed to be accessible to all pupils, regardless of religious background.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship under the Education Act.
 - This should be discussed with the Headteacher. Alternative arrangements will be made where necessary.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Worship is regularly observed and evaluated by:

- Senior Leaders
- Foundation Governors
- Pupil feedback
- Evaluation informs future planning and ensures the worship remains meaningful, inclusive, and relevant.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Headteacher: Responsible for ensuring statutory requirements are met.
- Governing Body: Particularly Foundation Governors, ensure the school maintains its Christian distinctiveness.
Worship Coordinator: Oversees planning, delivery, and evaluation of Collective Worship.

Links with the Church and Community

- We maintain strong links with our local parish church.
- Clergy regularly contribute to worship and support RE and spiritual life in school.
Pupils attend services at Holy Trinity Church for key Christian festivals.
- We provide the opportunity for pupils to gain an understanding of non-Christian festivals from around the world

Conclusion

Collective Worship at Trinity First CofE VC School is central to our identity as a Church of England school. It provides a time for reflection, spiritual growth, and community, rooted in the Christian faith and respectful of all.