



Trinity

LEARNING • LOVING • LIVING

Collective Worship Policy

| Date Governor Approval | Date of next review | Notes |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| Approved 12 th February 2020 by the Faith Committee Ratified by the Governing Body | | To be reviewed every two years. |
| Latest Update March 2022 | | |
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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Our aim

To be a strong Christian community in which children and adults – all of whom reflect the goodness of God - can flourish. A community where pupils fulfil their potential and achieve the very best educational outcomes, enabling them to make good life choices, to uphold British values, and to take their place as citizens of the wider world.

As a church school we have three core values which encapsulate the things that are important in our school:



- ☪ We are a learning community
- ☪ We are a loving family
- ☪ We are living good lives

Note: This policy should be read in conjunction with the Curriculum Policy.

The aim of our collective worship

Collective worship is the ‘heartbeat’ of our school; expressing and shaping who we are and what we do. The aim of our collective worship is to create a time to encounter and respond to God. It is a space to meet as a community; to identify, celebrate and affirm the ideals and values that are of central importance in the Church of England. Collective worship should make an important contribution to the spiritual development of all members of the school community - from all faiths and none.

We seek to fulfil this aim through:

- a daily act of collective Christian worship that takes place in a variety of groups and settings
- distinctive Christian teaching using a range of creative approaches, e.g. music, silence, drama, symbols
- learning that’s inspired by Scripture
- celebrating and exploring the Eucharist in engaging and innovative ways

- creating opportunities for prayer, reflection and mindfulness within the life of the school
- celebrating and marking key festivals and seasons in the Church's calendar
- nurturing the links with our parish churches, and with the churches in our wider deanery
- regularly visiting our local churches for special services of worship

Why do we worship?

- Worship provides us with an opportunity to encounter God, receive from God and respond to God. Worship fosters feelings such as awe, wonder, thankfulness, mystery and joy.
- Worship enables us to appreciate our own worth and value to God, to respect others as children of God, and to celebrate our gifts, talents and achievements.
- Worship helps to explore, establish and reinforce the common Christian values of our school community, such as love, peace, kindness and compassion.
- Worship establishes a sense of community and belonging within the school. It helps to build up the community by contributing to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members.
- Worship provides an opportunity to engage with others from the wider community, to be aware of the needs of others, and invites us to love our neighbors.
- Worship encourages us to respect and care for God's creation by promoting a positive attitude to local and global environmental issues.
- Worship allows time to bring personal needs and the needs of others to God in prayer.
- Worship enables people to reflect on their own stories, and on the big questions of life, through engagement with the Christian story as found in the Bible.

The organization of collective worship

- We have a daily act of collective worship.
- Worship takes place in a variety of settings. At least once a week the whole school gathers for worship. This includes the pupils and teaching staff at the primary phase, and the pupils and teaching staff at the secondary phase. This whole school worship introduces the theme for the week, which is then explored and developed in other worship times. At present these whole school worship times take places on Monday (secondary phase) and Tuesday (primary phase). At other times daily worship will be in other settings: family groups or classes, key stages, year groups, or within carousel or withdrawal groups.
- At the beginning of worship, we create a sacred space which depending on the setting and available resources may involve candle lighting, looking at an icon or picture or symbol such as the cross, ringing a bell, standing in preparation.
- We have a liturgical structure: we gather, receive a bible reading, engage, have silence, respond with music and / or a prayer and then we are dismissed.
- Within worship we celebrate awesome work and share information about the school community.

- Worship is planned, resourced and led by the chaplaincy team in collaboration with staff, students, governors, local clergy, youth workers and other visitors as appropriate.
- Worship themes are based on the church's year, the lectionary, saints' days, bible stories, bible characters, gospel values and connect to national days, British values, our local community, current affairs, learning, school life and PSHEE.
- We have occasional worship in our parish churches of The Good Shepherd and Saint Swithun's which follow the Christian calendar.
- We celebrate the Eucharist collectively at least three times a year in the Secondary; for KS2 at least two times; and at KS1 and EYFS we teach about the Eucharist in RE lessons. Preparation for Eucharist is through RE lessons and at KS2 the option of first communion classes may be provided. School Eucharists will be both in our schools and on occasion in our parish churches.

Right of withdrawal

All pupils are expected to attend daily acts of worship and church services. The 1988 Education Reform Act gives the right for parents to request permission for their child to be excused from collective worship. Any requests for this withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Monitoring and Review

Collective worship is evaluated on a regular basis by the Chaplain / SLT, and seeks to take into account the views of a range of stakeholders.

Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of the Faith Committee, who are also responsible for the oversight of RE.

This policy will be reviewed every two years.

Faith Committee

Approved 12th February 2020

Ratified by Governing Body: