

All Saints' CE Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

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All Saints' CE Primary School, Collective Worship Policy

Vision: Learning Hand in Hand Together with God

Colossians 3:17: Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Collective Worship at All Saints' Church of England School, in accordance with our Trust Deed and with the statutory requirements, is at the centre of the school's daily life. It is a time when we come together to share Christian values and experiences of our everyday lives, to develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of our pupils. We give children the opportunity to develop spiritually in the gathering together for Daily Worship and praise the awe and wonder of God through the beauty of the world He has created; we pray together, sing together and learn about the teachings of both the old and New Testament, with particular emphasis on our core values, drawing wherever possible links to other key faiths.

Aims

In our worship, we seek to reflect on the Christian foundation of the school and its care for all who work here. Children are helped to understand the meaning of Christian worship and we hope that believers will reach the "threshold of worship".

Our central aims of Collective Worship are:

- To enable pupils to explore a variety of forms of worship, so that those with a religious commitment may have experience of worship deepened and broadened and so that the uncommitted may begin to feel for themselves something of what it means for others to worship.
- To enable pupils to approach the "threshold" of worship by encouraging in them a worshipful attitude, characterised by feelings such as awe, wonder, being uplifted, elation, deep appreciation, gratitude, respect, reverence and trepidation.
- To enable pupils to use silence for stilling, reflection, contemplation, meditation and, as appropriate, prayer.
- To heighten pupils' awareness of questions relating to the ultimate mysteries of life and of the beliefs held and commitments made by themselves and others in response to such questions.
- To make value and purpose explicit for the pupils as individuals, for the school and for the wider community.
- To develop a sense of community within the school and of being part of, not only a local, but a wider global community.
- To celebrate achievements and special occasions in respect of individuals, the school and the wider community.
- To celebrate difference and diversity.
- To heighten aesthetic awareness and enable pupils to appreciate the use of symbolism and religious language to express feelings and belief.

Worship in School

Worship is organised on a whole school basis and includes whole school, Key Stage and class collective worship. It is led by different members of the leadership team, staff, pupils, incumbent of both All Saints' and St Margaret's churches, the Open the Book Team and other visitors. This enables us to provide an exciting and varied approach towards our collective worship and greatly enhances the schools Christian character.

We recognise that, although our school has a Christian foundation, our children come from a variety of backgrounds, including children from other faith, communities and those who do not share in any particular belief. Whilst the focus of our worship is Christian, we aim to be sensitive to the needs of all our children, and provide opportunities for all to share in worship in a way which makes sense to them and is appropriate to their stage of development.



All Saints' CE Primary School, Collective Worship Policy

The Christian calendar is recognised and celebrated with services held at All Saints' Church including the Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter and also the Year 6 leaver's service. (Refer to the half term Collective Worship timetable.)

Overview of weekly Collective Worship

	Main feature of worship	Led by
Monday	Christian calendar and Bible teaching Whole school	Mike Coe (vicar)/ pupil ministry Open the Book Team
Tuesday	Praise & Achievement & Values KS1/EYFS (Hall) Class Worship KS2 (Classrooms)	KS1 staff (rota) Pupils
Wednesday	Wonder Question / class spirituality singing Whole school	HT/DHT/pupil ministry
Thursday	Praise & Achievement & Values KS2 (Hall) Class Worship KS1/EYFS (Classrooms)	KS2 staff (rota) Pupils
Friday	Celebrations/Achievements	HT/DHT/(Father Philip)/pupil ministry

Content of Collective Worship

Acts of Worship are planned around the school values, PSHE curriculum and the Christian calendar. Stories from the Old and New Testament and SCARF materials are used regularly but not exclusively as sources for teaching on spiritual, moral and social issues.

The beginning of our act of worship is usually signified by a **welcome** from the pupil greeters and the placing of class rainbow crosses into a collective basket next to the large cross on the table. This is followed by **responding** with singing a hymn (spirituality opportunity) and the **learning** through the main focus of the act of worship is introduced through stories, songs, drama, questioning, photos, paintings and other stimuli. Worship may include a short quiet time for reflection.

Prayer is used as part of worship and will always be invitational to support children of other faiths or no faith to retain the integrity of their own beliefs without compromise. The act of worship usually finishes with the **sending**, ensuring everyone leaves in the knowledge that God is with them in whatever they do.

Planning:

Collective Worship planning is outlined on a Half Term Plan and includes several features

- Prayer /Hymn
- School value
- Pupil led opportunities through ministry
- SCARF theme linked to value
- Wonder question for the week
- Visitors from All Saints' Church
- Other visitors including Father Philip (St Margaret's)
- Pupil led worship where the parents are invited



All Saints' CE Primary School, Collective Worship Policy

- Event/charity being supported
- Pupil led singing of favourite hymn

Family Community:

Through our Daily Worship we aim to bring an awareness of what it means to be part of a community, which cares for each other, for God and for the environment explained through a set of core shared values. In so doing we hope that pupils will develop the ability to explore issues for themselves, be able to reflect upon and learn from experiences and develop a sense of awe and wonder about the wider world whilst understanding their role and responsibilities to their local community.

Equal Opportunities

Our school worship is about sharing what is meaningful and significant in our lives. It is about affirming that everyone is unique and equal in God's sight, ensuring that opportunities for worship are relevant to all pupils and pay due regard to their gender, belief, sexuality, ethnicity, physical or mental readiness.

Withdrawal

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Those wishing to exercise this right are requested to discuss arrangements with the Headteacher. Should any parent make such a request, appropriate provision will be made for the supervision of the children following consultation. Parents who have concerns about the content of Collective Worship should contact the Headteacher.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The staff and governors are committed to ensuring that every child in school will derive some benefit from Collective Worship. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to the range of abilities, aptitudes and interests of the pupils.

Evaluation

A record of collective worship is kept in both the hall and in each class. This is to ensure that acts of worship meet the requirements of this policy and inform our learning and planning for further developments. Collective worship is observed and evaluated by appointed pupils, staff, governors, parents and visitors. (Appendix 1)



All Saints' CE Primary School, Collective Worship Policy

Appendix 1



Collective Worship Monitoring

Welcome to Worship:	God be with you, hand in hand together.
Sending:	May Gods blessing be with you in what ever you do today.
Weekly Greeters:	

Week Beginning:	Weekly Wonder Question:
Monday: All Saints Leading Topic/Story;	Overview: This helped me to: Prayer:
Tuesday: KS1 Leading Topic/Story;	Overview: This helped me to: Prayer:
Wednesday: Whole School Class Singing: Song: Topic/Story;	Overview: This helped me to: Prayer:
Thursday: KS2 Leading Topic/Story;	Overview: This helped me to: Prayer:
Friday: Whole School Topic/Story;	Overview: Celebrations This helped me to: Prayer: