



# Collective Worship Policy

2022 - 2023

*Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord.  
(Psalm 95:6)*

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## Document Control

### *Owner*

The owner of this document is the Headteacher. All requests for change should be directed to them. Any printed copies of this document are for reference only; the definitive version is the computer file held on the school office administrator's computer.

### *Revision history*

Version	Date	Changes	Author(s)
1	16/03/21		PS

### *Approval*

Version	Date	Approver(s)	Minute number
1	29/03/21	Full Governing Body	GB 53/21
1	20/07/22	Full Governing Body	t.b.c.

*Review period* This policy will be reviewed annually.

Version	
	Summer term 2023

## Introduction

Worship is a vital part of our school day giving both staff and children opportunities to reflect on Christian principles. We recognise that Collective Worship is a way of providing opportunities for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development.

## Aim

Collective worship gives pupils and school staff the opportunity to:

- ✓ Engage in an act of community.
- ✓ Express praise and thanksgiving to God.
- ✓ Be still and reflect.
- ✓ Explore the big questions of life and respond to national events.
- ✓ Foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness.
- ✓ Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Christ.
- ✓ Affirm Christian values and attitudes.
- ✓ Share each other's joys and challenges.
- ✓ Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar.

It is **our aim** at Youlgrave, All Saints' C of E (VA) Primary School that worship should:

- Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child.
- Give expression to, and reaffirm and practice the values of the school vision.
- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life; and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within our school, local and international community; and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others; a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others.
- Provide opportunities to praise and reach out to God.
- Provide opportunities to experience stillness and quiet.
- Provide opportunities to respond to Christian language and symbolism.

- Provide opportunities to experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others, or quiet reflection.

## Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that 'All pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day, take part in an act of Collective Worship'

Acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all children or separate acts of worship for different groups of children e.g. House Collective Worship.

Collective Worship is generally held during the afternoon (after lunch-time), in a variety of settings, and it is in accordance with our school's Equal Opportunities Policy.

## Organisation

Collective Worship is held every day and it is led by our Year 5 and Year 6 Collective Worship monitors; supported by staff. It lasts for 20 minutes and will include:

- Music (to enter and leave our place of worship)
- Lighting of candles.
- 'Welcome': "Good afternoon/morning"
- Liturgy: "The Lord be with you... *And also, with you*"
- Focus of worship
- Prayer
- Hymn/song
- Liturgy: "Go in peace, to love and to serve the Lord. *In the name of Christ, Amen*".
- Extinguishing of candles

**Monday** – Whole school Collective Worship using Picture News.

**Tuesday** – Whole school Collective Worship using the Roots and Fruits half termly theme.

**Wednesday** – Whole school Collective Worship using specifically Christian Collective Worship led by religious leaders in the community (Regular visits are booked with MAST team and 'Open the Book' team and Geoff Clay from All Saints Church) **or** additional materials (Roots and Fruits, Archbishop of York Youth Trust Lent and Advent resource).

**Thursday** – Whole school Singing Collective Worship using hymns and songs linked to the Church Season.

**Friday** – Whole school achievement collective worship.

Collective Worship is regularly attended by a range of speakers, including church leaders, community members and guest speakers (e.g. Matlock Area Schools Trust [M.A.S.T]) – see above.

## Planning, Recording and Evaluation

We use the Roots and Fruits Collective Worship resource and follow a theme each half term. This theme is linked to a Christian Value and explores the value through scripture links and stories, planned on a half-termly theme following a 2-yearly cycle; which embraces the Religious Education (RE) curriculum (on occasions it is recognised that teachers may feel they need to respond to local or national events).

Our Collective Worship planning follows the four themes of Welcome, Learning, Reflecting and Responding.

Individual members of staff plan their worship and draw upon the Collective Worship leader for support when needed. Records of acts of worship are kept and are used to monitor the range of styles and to ensure continuity of expectations and content. Displays in class and in the hall reflect the Collective Worship themes and children's responses.

Collective Worship is evaluated throughout the year by the Collective Worship leader/Headteacher and the Collective Worship/RE link-governor. This includes areas of strengths and development; which are fed back to staff and then to our Continual Professional Development (CPD) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) s required.

## Home School Links

Our half termly theme is shared with parents by signposting the Home School Values on our Collective Worship page on the school website.

The learning from home resources from Picture News are communicated to parents weekly.

Pictures of our Collective Worships are shared on Class pages.

## Right of Withdrawal

At Youlgrave, All Saints' C of E (VA) Primary School, we respect the rights of parents/carers to withdraw their child/children for Collective Worship. Our school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

