

Collective Worship Policy



Holy Trinity

Church of England Primary Academy

Collective Worship Policy Holy Trinity Academy

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord. “Plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11.

At Holy Trinity Academy our distinctive Christian values are at the heart of all we do. Through our curriculum and care, our children develop independent curiosity, acquire a life-long appetite for learning and become well-rounded individuals seeking ‘hope and a future’, or themselves and others.

A statement regarding the legal position of Collective Worship in the school.

Holy Trinity is a Church of England Academy with a voluntary aided heritage. In addition to the national legal requirement that there should be daily worship, as a church school, we have a Trust Deed which states that worship should be 'in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England' and in accordance with the School Ethos Statement in the statutory Instrument of Government. Collective Worship takes place every day for all pupils. As this is an aided school, members of staff are expected to attend the act of collective worship.

Rationale for Collective Worship

For our church school, Collective Worship is a highly valued part of the school day as it is the time when we gather together to affirm what is important to us, to our school and to our world. We take care to plan our collective worship so that it is inclusive, invitational, and inspiring. In our times of collective worship together, the school affirms the claims of Christianity which underpins the values of the school, and which is the faith of a few teachers and pupils. It provides an opportunity for pupils to worship God, whilst seeking to be relevant to, and inclusive, of all. It reflects our Anglican tradition as well as exploring with pupils and staff a variety of ways in which Christians worship God.

In acts of Collective Worship in our school it is recognised that in our school community, some members will come from families with a commitment to the Christian faith, others from families with a commitment to another faith and yet others will have no particular commitment to any tradition. Therefore the content and language of collective worship allows for different levels of response. It is invitational and our acts of worship are inclusive of our community.

Acts of worship in our school are predominantly and overtly Christian. However, to reflect our community, we draw upon religious material from a variety of traditions when preparing collective worship. The original source of the material (story, song, text, information) is clearly stated, and then set in a Christian framework, and the connections with the Christian tradition are explored.

Collective worship in our school influences the way that we live together as a community and before God. Members of the community are challenged to think, act and live differently as a result of these times together.

At Holy Trinity Primary Academy, collective worship is an occasion for nurturing spiritual health and learning together in an inclusive way. In collective worship, there is time and space to:

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Spiritual character – developing understanding in these four areas (remember that these are optional suggestions – choose ones that are right for your school)</p>	<p>to think about God to listen to God to make a response to God to explore a relationship with God to enjoy being in the presence of God to contemplate the awesomeness of God to offer adoration, praise and thanksgiving to God</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">God</p> <p>to get a sense of things unseen to wonder</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Our world</p> <p>to feel a sense of belonging to a group that shares and celebrates together, as well as being thoughtful or sad together to experience a feeling of connectedness to others in the world and a sense of responsibility towards them to realise that life can be hard and challenging, that there is difficulty to be faced, but people can do it together with others</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Others</p> <p>to reflect on personal belief to reflect upon ourselves and our lives as part of a bigger picture of life to recognise personal strengths and weaknesses to note feelings and opinions to recognise that everyone gets things wrong and makes mistakes, but it is possible to move beyond them to think in a new way to gain inspiration to receive a challenge to live differently to rejoice in being unique and preciousto be, rather than do</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Myself</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Educational character</p>	<p>to learn about different ways of worshipping and about imagery and symbolism to participate in marking important features of the church calendar to explore the Christian vision and values of the school hope, compassion, wisdom, justice, service to use stillness and quietness to have a quiet moment in a busy day to celebrate gifts, talents and achievements to consider spiritual questions raised in the rest of the curriculum</p>

In satisfying these aims the following principles are also observed:

Inclusive character	<p>... whatever the age, aptitude or background of school community members</p> <p>... where the integrity of each is respected</p> <p>... enabling children to explore and evaluate their beliefs</p>
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The organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place daily usually in the school hall at
 It follows the pattern here:

Day	Monday	Tuesday		Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Time	9.00	9.00	10.10	9.00	9.00	9.00	10.10
Group	Whole school	KS1	KS2	Whole school	Class worship	KS1	KS2
Style	Introduction to theme	Age- phase related worship		Praise worship	Class worship	Celebration of gift and talents	
Venue	Hall	Hall		Hall	Classroom/ amphitheatre	Hall	
Leader	Headteacher/ Deputy Head	Class teachers on a rota		Class teachers on a rota	Teachers and pupils	Phase Leaders	

The planning of Collective Worship

Each half term there is a theme for Collective worship based on Christian values from Roots and Fruits. Each week there is a theme based on the value. Those leading worship are asked to relate their worship to the selected theme. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective and interests. This will mean that, by the end of a week, the pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints. On occasions it is recognised that those leading worship may feel that they need to respond to local or national events. We are actively encouraging pupils to make a contribution to helping to lead aspects of acts of collective worship. All those leading collective worship are asked to plan their act of worship in as much detail as they would any other learning activity. Staff take account of the community that we serve and ensure that images and resources used during worship are reflective of the school population.

The content of Collective Worship

Within our collective worship we provide a wide variety of stimuli to help pupils to reflect upon and respond to the central theme. These include:

<p>Story Music Powerpoint images and slideshows Poetry Drama Video Puppets Games Dance Questioning Singing Praying</p>
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As we are an Anglican school we reflect aspects of Anglican worship in the following ways (select as appropriate):

We use the Bible as a source of Christian teaching, and give it a prominent place in our worship.

We draw upon the teaching of Jesus and explore the relevance of his teaching in today's world.

We follow the cycle of the Anglican year; Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter

We use liturgical colours for our worship focus.

We use Christian symbols and artefacts, exploring their meaning for Christians

We use include the Lord's Prayer

Our worship follows a liturgical pattern eg Gathering .. Engaging ...Responding...Sending

The management of Collective Worship

The governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that the legal requirements for worship are met, but the head teacher has the statutory accountability for ensuring that collective worship takes place. The nominated person with specific responsibility for collective worship in our school is the headteacher

Arrangements for recording, monitoring and evaluating Collective Worship

A record of the theme and content of the collective worship is kept in a file. Evaluation takes place in the following ways:

There is a rota for evaluation by one child from one class per week.

Staff members will also record an evaluation of one worship per week.

Parental Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. If a parent wishes to consider this option, the Head Teacher should be approached.

Review date for the policy

November 2025