



St Giles' C of E Primary School
Learn, Grow and Flourish

Headteacher Mr Mark Pipe

Collective Worship Policy



St Giles' CoE Primary School Collective Worship Policy

Approved By: Governing Body

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Person Responsible: Mark Pipe

Policy Statement

As a Church St. Giles' CoE Primary School, worship is an affirmation and celebration of our Christian ethos where children have the opportunity to learn, worship and grow in their understanding of God and of themselves. Worship in our St. Giles' CoE Primary School is not simply a statutory duty. It is the heartbeat of our school life – a time to gather together, reaffirm our vision (Learn, Grow, Flourish) and associated values of *Kindness, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Perseverance* and celebrate the central role that each pupil and adult have to play in our community.

Our acts of collective worship reflect the variety of traditions found in the Church of England and recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

The aims and purpose of Collective Worship as defined by the Education Reform Act 1988 are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity for the children to worship God
- 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

The Legal Requirements

We seek to comply with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Section 70 and Schedule 20) which requires that:

- All registered pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdrawal) must on each St. Giles' CoE Primary School day take part in an act of Collective Worship.
- The daily act of Collective Worship should be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deeds of the St. Giles' CoE Primary School and the ethos statement in the Instrument of Government, and should be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England.
- All acts of Collective Worship in Church schools must be Christian in character. Pupils can be grouped in various ways for worship such as the whole school, year groups, tutor groups, classes, or other combinations.
- Acts of worship must be appropriate for the pupils in that they should take account of the pupils' age, aptitude and family backgrounds.
- The daily act of Collective Worship will normally take place on the St. Giles' CoE Primary School (except for visits to the church on Monday) premises but all schools are able to hold their Act of Collective Worship elsewhere (e.g. the local Parish Church) on special occasions.
- Responsibility for the arrangement of Collective Worship in a Church of England St. Giles' CoE Primary School rests with the Local Governing Body in consultation with the

Principal/Headteacher.

Principles of collective worship

Each adult and pupil will experience worship that is truly welcoming, inclusive and exemplifying the principles of Christian hospitality (see Church of England's Collective Worship Guidance).¹ Collective worship therefore will be:

- **Inclusive** – Our acts of worship recognise that pupils and staff come from homes of different faith backgrounds as well as no faith backgrounds, so it will be inclusive of, and fully accessible to all. Care will be taken to ensure that language used by those facilitating worship avoids assuming faith of those participating, listening or watching.
- **Invitational** – In our acts of worship, there is no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship will provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. Pupils and adults will only be invited to pray and sing if they wish to do so.
- **Inspiring** – By asking and discussing big questions about who we are and what we do in worship we hope to motivate pupils and adults into action. There will be opportunities to think, reflect and ponder on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions.

Implementation

In addition to the above, we seek to provide acts of Collective Worship that reflect the faith and practice of the Church of England. Therefore:

We use the Bible as a sourcebook for inspiration and learning and make pupils familiar with the Lord's Prayer, psalms and other verses of scripture. We also introduce them to a variety of well-known prayers – many of which express the central beliefs of Christians throughout the ages.

We use aspects of Anglican liturgy to create a framework for worship Gathering
(How worship will start) Music/Silence/Words to focus
Engaging (Main Input)
Responding (Reflection) Moment with God. Prayer and Reflection
Sending (How worship will end) What will pupils take with them?

We observe the cycle of the Anglican year including celebrations of the major Christian festivals.

In St. Giles' CoE Primary School, we aim to provide worship spaces which are attractive and well prepared with appropriate thought having been given to colour, space, seating, ambience and music.

We foster links with St. Giles' Church, involving a member of the church community in leading

¹ <https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Collective%20Worship%20Guidance%2018052021.pdf>

collective worship and providing coherence between worship in church and St. Giles' CoE Primary School and visit weekly as part of the Christian calendar.

We recognise that different members of our school community spiritually reflect in different ways. Music, story, silence, prayer, drama and other approaches are incorporated within a varied collective worship offer.

Connections with other Christian denominations and faiths

The Anglican Communion sees itself as part of a global church and promotes ecumenism. At St. Giles' CoE Primary School, we work to promote links with other local churches and Christian organisations and welcome their clergy and leaders as contributors to acts of collective worship. We recognise that while some of our pupils and families belong to Anglican churches, many worship regularly at churches of other Christian denominations, while others come from different faith backgrounds or none. We endeavour to provide a setting in which the integrity of those present is not compromised, where everyone finds something positive for themselves and there is no pressure to participate inappropriately or to believe.

Rights and Responsibilities

As established by the 1944 Act and reinforced through this policy, parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. However, having chosen to send their children to St. Giles' CoE Primary School, it is hoped that no one will exercise this right. Should such a situation arise, appropriate arrangements would be made in keeping with the requirements of the Act.

Planning

Planning for Collective Worship is led by the headteacher and is undertaken in consultation with the St. Giles' CoE Primary School's adult community. Plans follow the cycle of the Anglican year, The headteacher ensures that leaders and visiting speakers receive copies of the long-term plans. Individuals and groups are responsible for using the plans as a basis for developing their own short term plans for individual acts of worship.

Organisation

An act of Collective Worship is held daily. This may involve the whole St. Giles' CoE Primary School or smaller class or key stage groups. Where collective worship forms part of an assembly, we ensure that there is a clear distinction between the two elements of gathering.

The headteacher and other members of staff together with groups of children take turns to conduct Collective Worship. The local vicar, or a church representative, takes a weekly worship which is connected to the value of the week.

We conduct Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way expecting children to behave appropriately. We create a suitable atmosphere by using music, pictures or other artefacts to act as a focal point.




Collective Worship Planning

Autumn Term 2024/5

Our School Values: *Kindness, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Perseverance*

Collective Worship should be the heartbeat of our school and an important focus point each day. It is important that time is given for this and the structure is followed. It is also important that the consistent is similar across the school so that children recognise that it is worship and are able to appreciate the time for reflection and thoughtfulness that it allows. However, we as members of staff are all different and have different relationships with religion. This structure aims to give you the framework to deliver effective whole school worship, yet provide you the flexibility to personalise and make it your own.

General Preparation	Table set at front of hall with coloured cloth Three candles laid out on table Rest of the frontage clear of mess to create a clear focus point
Gathering (How worship will start) Music/Silence/Words to focus	'I wonder...' question displayed at the front of the hall for pupils to consider as they arrive. This may be accompanied by music. Start with candles being lit by pupils.
Engaging (Main Input)	Usually there will be a focus on a story or point from The Bible. PowerPoint to be used where possible to provide a visual focus.
Responding (Reflection) Moment with God Prayer and Reflection	There will usually be a prayer shared. Pupils will be asked to have a moment of quiet and will be told that the adult is going to say a prayer. They may join in by putting their hands together if they wish to. Either before or following the prayer, there will be a moment of quiet to allow for personal reflection.
Sending (How worship will end) What will pupils take with them?	Pupils will be asked to consider how they will take the main points from the worship. How will they use this in their day or lives moving forward? What will they do differently? This may be accompanied by music.

Within Worship, we will usually include specific 'moments'	
Window Moments	Opportunities for us to take a closer look at something and find out something new. This could be through accessing a new story or song, or listening to a new perspective or idea. 
Mirror Moments	Opportunities for us to think about how this new learning could have an impact on themselves. What they might reflect upon or think about following worship. 
Door Moments	Opportunities for us to think about how we can use the new learning as we leave worship. What will we be able to do differently to have a positive impact on those around us? 

**In class reflection activities- Set up by Collective
Worship Monitors/Mr Pipe/Mrs Dowdall**

1. Bubble tube – thinking prompt – “Watch the bubbles rising to the top. Whilst you do this, imagine each one is one of your friends. What makes each friend special to you?”
2. Tree– “On a tag, write a promise that you have made to someone. This could be someone at school, someone at home or yourself. Think about how you will keep that promise”.
3. Go and say thank you to someone who has shown you kindness today
4. In the sand, write something that you have done which has **not** been a good example of (insert School Value). Think about how you can fix this. Then rub out what you have written and go and make it better!
5. Roll the prayer dice and say a short thank you prayer for having such great people around you.

**Our Bigger Questions to
explore (examples)**

What does kindness
look like?

I wonder what kindness
means to those who
need it the most

I wonder what is the
bravest thing you have
done

I wonder why
sometimes people do
not do things that need
bravery

	Monday Proclamation	Tuesday Praise	Wednesday Praise	Thursday Reflection	Friday Celebration
Led By	MP/MK/KD/NW	Mrs Watt	MP/Mary Butcher	Mrs Dowdall	Mr Pipe
Delivery	Whole School 2:50pm	Whole School 1:10pm	Whole School 2:50pm	Whole School 2:50pm	Whole School 2.50pm
Gathering (How worship will start)	Welcome to Worship Light the candle	Music to enter Candles	Welcome to Worship Light the candle	Welcome to Worship Light the candle	Welcome to Worship Light the candle
Engaging (Main Input)	Follow theme timetable. Catalyst for discussion or response linked to bible verse, bible story or a big question supported by theology.	Singing Worship with Mrs Watt Sing, praise, consider the lyrics and meaning.	Follow theme timetable	Christian Calendar	Reflection on theme of the week.
Responding (Reflection) Moment with God Prayer and Reflection	Follow Collective Worship Pro-forma A prayer or consideration shared. Lord's Prayer.		Follow Collective Worship Pro-forma	School Prayer/Alternative prayer	Prayer of thanks written by pupils to be shared.
Sending What will pupils take with them?	Song played for pupils to reflect to as they leave. Church hymn	Song played for pupils to reflect to as they leave.	Song played for pupils to reflect to as they leave. Church hymn	How can we use this on our lives or support others?	Song played for pupils to reflect to as they leave. Contemporary

	Theme	School Value
Tuesday 3 rd Sept	New Beginnings	Perseverance
Monday 9 th Sept	Care	Respect
Monday 16 th Sept Jodie	Organisation	Perseverance
Monday 23 rd Sept Harvest	Creativity	Courage
Monday 30 th Sept 3 rd Oct Rosh Hashana	Respecting Our Environment	Respect
Monday 7 th Oct 12 th Oct Yom Kippur	Co-operation	Kindness
Monday 14 th Oct	Perseverance	Perseverance
Monday 21 st Oct 1 st Nov All Saints/Diwali	Positive Role Model	Kindness
Half Term		
Monday 4 th Nov 5 th Nov Guy Fawkes 10 th Nov Remembrance Sunday	Increased Confidence	Perseverance
Monday 11 th Nov 11 th Nov Remembrance day Melis	Respect	Respect
Monday 18 th Nov UK Parliament Week	Leadership	Courage
Monday 25 th Nov Nia	Supporting Others	Respect/Kindness

Monday 2 nd Dec	Generosity	Kindness
Monday 9 th Dec Kirsty	Encouraging others	Kindness
Monday 16 th Dec 26 th Dec Hanukah	The Christmas Story	
Christmas Holiday		

	Theme	School Value
Monday 6 th Jan Sunday 5 th Jan 12 th Night 6 th Jan Epiphany	Courage	Honesty
Monday 13 th Jan	Compassion	Kindness
Monday 20 nd Jan 25 th Jan Chinese New Year Melis	Strength	Courage
Monday 27 th Jan	Kindness	Kindness
Monday 3 rd Feb	Positive impact on others	Kindness
Monday 10 th Feb	Enthusiasm	Perseverance
Half Term		
Monday 24 th Feb 1 st March Ramadan	Friendship	Kindness
Monday 3 th Mar 4 th Shrove Tuesday 5 th Ash Wednesday	Courage	Courage
Monday 10 th Mar	Thoughtfulness	Respect
Monday 17 th Mar Nia	Progress in...	Perseverance
Monday 24 th Mar	Bravery	Courage
Monday 31 st Mar 31 st Mar Eid 13 th Apr Palm Sunday/Passover	Easter 18 th Apr Good Friday 19 th Holy Sat 20 th Easter Sun	

	21 st Easter Mon	
Easter Holiday		
Monday 28 th Apr	Positivity	Perseverance
Monday 5 th May	Spirit of giving	Kindness
Monday 12 th May	Organisation	Perseverance
Monday 19 th May	Creativity	Courage
Half Term		
Monday 9 th Jun 8 th Jun Pentecost 15 th Jun Trinity Sunday Melis	Overcoming Difficulty	Courage
Monday 16 th Jun Nia	Enthusiasm	Perseverance
Monday 23 th Jun	Increased Confidence	Perseverance
Monday 30 th Jun	Progress in...	Perseverance
Monday 7 th Jul	Care	Respect
Monday 14 th Jul	Kindness	Kindness
Monday 21 st Jul	No theme	



Collective Worship



Today, we shall be
talking about...

Theme:
School Value:



Quote or Bible passage



**How did you develop resilience so
that you could keep trying?
Can this example help you to be
more resilient?**

Prayer



What will you do as a result of what
we have talked about today?



Resources

The budget for Collective Worship is distinct from the budget for Religious Education. There is a wide selection of assembly books and artefacts which we regularly update and improve. We have a collection of CDs which are used to provide suitable music as children enter and leave the hall as well as to accompany singing. Those leading worship also access professional development opportunities.

Contribution to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

We recognise that although SMSC development should be fostered across the whole curriculum, acts of Collective Worship provide a multitude of opportunities in this area. For example, children will be encouraged to reflect on and celebrate the deeper meanings of life, consider their own behaviour and recognise the need for forgiveness, appreciate the contributions of others and respond to their needs, value their own culture and the cultures of others.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We aim to develop the monitoring and evaluation of Collective Worship by continuing to keep records of Collective Worship and surveying adults and children as to their views on its effectiveness. We intend to make the criteria for successful worship available to all those who plan and lead it before asking them to submit short term plans. The coordinator and others will routinely observe and monitor acts of Collective Worship in line with these criteria.

Inclusion

We are committed to equality of opportunity regardless of race, gender, cultural background, ability or any physical or sensory disability. We therefore aim to make Collective Worship accessible to all and accommodate ourselves to individual needs when appropriate.

Implementation of Policy

The headteacher as Collective Worship Coordinator is responsible for this policy which will be reviewed every two years. Its implementation is the responsibility of all those planning and leading Collective Worship.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years.