



Our Christian faith emphasises the value and worth of every individual with their own distinctive character, gifts and abilities.

Christ's command to 'Love one another' calls us to respect and help other people, this provides the foundation for our school and all we aim to achieve.

Collection Worship Policy

Aims

The School Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the school's aims and ethos contained within the vision and values statement.

Our Vision

Jesus said...

³⁴ "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35

Rooted in our Christian ethos we will provide the finest education, develop enduring values and instil ambitious life aspirations

Our Aims and Values

Our vision is underpinned by our belief in key aims and values which we have for all our children:

Spiritual and personal well-being and fulfilment

Respect for others and ourselves

Justice and global citizenship

The courage to strive for excellence and seek high aspirations in all we do

This encompasses the Christian values of love, friendship, sharing, forgiveness, courage and peace, selected by the school community as those values which are at the heart of all we do.

At Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School we consider Collective Worship to be a significant educational activity that reflects and explores the school's distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of all learners.

Therefore, Collective Worship at Holy Trinity is planned to:

- be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the school's core Christian values
- have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity
- help all learners understand Anglican and other Christian traditions and festivals found in the UK and worldwide



- challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their spiritual journey with an understanding of the value of prayer, reflection and stillness
- contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development by providing learners with something more than the obvious; something to wonder at and something to respond to
- be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local, national and international community
- be regularly monitored and evaluated

Collective Worship is an experience which that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faiths. Collective Worship is conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of members of the school. It is regarded as a special time and children are expected to behave in an appropriate way. They are asked to be quiet and thoughtful to enable all to listen to engage and to participate in prayer and song.

The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship include opportunities for:

- the whole community to celebrate
- sharing and experiencing differences
- developing a culture of learning
- building a sense of group identity
- encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility
- taking a break from the busyness of life in stillness and quiet
- learning how to behave in a large social group
- exploring and evaluating individual beliefs
- exploring feelings and emotions
- reflecting on human existence
- learning how to respond appropriately
- developing inner awareness
- reinforcing positive attitudes
- respecting individuality and celebrating diversity
- appreciating of God given gifts and talents of the school community

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of Collective Worship for registered pupils. We expect all children to attend Collective Worship however parents have the right to withdraw their child and may request permission to do so, as is explained in the school prospectus.

It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship and the Headteacher keeps a record of all children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship.

All acts of collective worship are in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and reflect the Anglican status of the school. Parents are aware that the school is a church school and, as such, Collective Worship will be based upon the foundations and principles of the Church of England. The Governing Body are aware of their legal responsibilities and are clear on their statutory responsibility to uphold the Christian foundation of the school. This responsibility to uphold the Christian ethos and foundation of the school is made clear to staff on their appointment.



Planning a Collective Worship Programme

Specific time is set aside for planning acts of Collective Worship and the importance of marking out the act from other assembly activities is recognised.

The time is made special through actions which might include lighting a candle, allowing time for the children to reflect quietly, offering a prayer or worshiping through song.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. The views of pupils about collective worship are sought and pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of this aspect of school life.

Organisation of Collective Worship

The whole school meets for Collective Worship three times a week. On the two days when the whole school does not come together, collective worship takes place in classrooms led by class teachers. On these occasions, worship can be made specifically age appropriate.

Monday	Class Collective Worship
Tuesday at 1:15pm	Collective Worship led by the clergy
Wednesday	Class Collective Worship
Thursday at 1:15pm	Collective Worship led by Headteacher including a celebration of 'Stars of the Week' and sporting achievements
Friday at 2:50pm	'Come and Praise' led by Mrs Nicol or alternatively a Class Performance assembly in which pupils may contribute music, drama and dance and to which parents are invited. This worship will always include opportunities for spiritual development often in the form of a prayer.

Visitors are welcomed to acts of Collective Worship which are held mainly in school, and at least once a term, the children prepare and contribute to a service in Holy Trinity Church to which parents and friends of the school are invited. Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship and the need to avoid proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt particular religious or non-religious beliefs are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Occasionally, pupils are invited to contribute to Sunday service at Holy Trinity Church.

The acts of Collective Worship follow themes that are aligned to the school's values and include recognition of the church's year while making space for national or international events. Current themes are taken from the 'Barnabus in Schools' resource, '36 Ready to Read Assemblies for Collective Worship' taking school through the Bible story in a year although other relevant issues may be picked up as appropriate. The context of these acts of worship would be varied but still include a significant Christian input.



Music

Music is a much valued element in the curriculum and plays a large part in assemblies and collective worship.

- A wide range of hymns and choruses are taught to reflect the Christian year, seasonal changes and to celebrate moral and social aspects of life.
- Children are encouraged to learn hymns by heart, but the words are also displayed on a large screen at the front of the hall.
- Part singing is encouraged, as well as simple descants sung by the older children. The children occasionally use percussion instruments to accompany hymns. Music on CDs or accompaniment on the piano may be used to accompany singing.
- Hymns for particular times of the church's year are introduced to acts of collective worship.
- Whole school assemblies start and end with music.

Prayer

- Prayer is an important element of worship. Children may be encouraged to reflect on themes explored during Collective Worship through prayer or in moments of silence.
- They may join in with known prayers, such as the Lord's Prayer or the school prayer.
- They may repeat a prayer, following a leader, or take part in a prayer with an answering phrase.
- Grace is said before lunch, and a moment of reflection taken, or a prayer said, at the end of the school day.

Monitoring and Reviewing

It is the role of the school's two Foundation Governors, Father David Joynes and Mr Chris Harris, to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship and report back to the Governing Body. The programme of Collective Worship is coordinated and also monitored by the headteacher.

This policy was approved and adopted by the Governing Body on 8th October 2020

Signed

Chair of Governors

Signed

Head Teacher



Appendix 1: Collective Worship Policy During the Covid-19 Pandemic

This appendix has been created to outline the school's Collective Policy for the full opening of Holy Trinity CE Primary School in September 2020. It has been created in accordance with the government guidance for the full opening of schools.

Statement of Intent

At Holy Trinity CE Primary School, we aim to provide the children with opportunities for high quality collective worship which promotes the school's distinctive Christian character and gives the pupils an opportunity to explore their own beliefs. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the school aims to act in accordance with the Collective Worship Policy as much as is possible. However, it is recognised that there is a necessity for additional rules and considerations while the school observes social distancing and infection control guidelines. This appendix sets out what additional actions the school will take to ensure the safety of all pupils and staff. These adjustments are set out below:

Delivery of Collective Worship:

Collective Worship for the most part will be delivered in classrooms on a daily basis while there remains a restriction on bringing bubbles together. Class teachers will take a lead on delivering sessions, continuing to follow the whole school agreed plan which uses the '36 Ready to Read Assemblies for Collective Worship' as a starting point. Staff will actively seek ways of engaging all learners and find opportunities for the children to regularly participate and lead class collective worship sessions within their bubble.

The school will look for innovative ways of delivering sessions, sometimes using virtual platforms to stream assemblies into classrooms. Safe methods for involving the clergy in collective worship will also be explored and implemented. While visits to Holy Trinity Church are not possible, methods of bringing the church to the children will be exploited. This might be in the form of showing pre-recorded services or by approaching the clergy to request bespoke assemblies which can be streamed.

Celebratory assemblies will continue but within class bubbles.

Class assemblies to which parents have previously been invited, will temporarily cease and risk assessments will be carried out before any visitor is invited in to school to deliver collective worship.

Although music is recognised as a valuable constituent of worship, the singing of hymns and other songs will be curtailed. However, music can be used to start and end an assembly and provide ambiance at suitable times.