



Christ Church Academy

Part of the Key Educational Trust

Collective Worship Policy

2026-2027

Reviewed: September 2026

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To be a learning community that provides excellence in education for the whole person – a place where all can flourish. We believe that: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

[Philippians 4:13](#)

Collective Worship Policy

1. Rationale for Collective Worship at Christ Church Academy

- 1.1 Collective worship at Christ Church Academy plays a central role in the life of our school and is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school, affirming the faith, principles and practices of the Church of England.
- 1.2 Collective worship makes a significant contribution to the ethos and values Christ Church Academy and to the school's distinctive Christian character. We honour our Anglican foundation with presentation of the church's year together with its symbols and spirituality. We extend this exploration to encompass the practices of other Christian traditions and welcome the links we have within the community. At the same time, we are sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school. We welcome every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, gender, ability, background or religion.
- 1.3 Collective worship occupies an important place within the life of the school. It provides an invaluable opportunity for members of the school community to pause from activity, to gather together, to remind themselves of the vision and values which bind the school community together and to reflect upon this. It also allows those with a religious commitment the possibility of entering into worship and those with no religious commitment to sense what worship is and to reflect at depth. In this way, we aim to provide opportunities for worship that is inspirational, invitational and inclusive.
- 1.4 We recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide opportunities for our students Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

2. Trust Deed

- 2.1 Our daily acts of collective worship are in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Academy.

3. Aims

3.1 The main aims of collective worship in this school are to:

- contribute to the spiritual flourishing of pupils and adults
- stimulate a sense of awe, wonder and an awareness of God
- provide opportunities for pupils to worship God in an environment in which belief in God is recognised and respected
- develop an understanding of Christian care, love and compassion
- encourage pupils and adults to become aware of the ways in which the Christian faith influences all aspects of life
- allow pupils and adults to explore and develop their own spirituality while providing time for reflection, meditation, prayer and silence
- foster sensitivity to the beliefs, practices and values of others within the school, community and the wider world
- challenge and inspire pupils and adults while promoting moral, aesthetic and creative awareness

•help pupils and adults recognise, reflect upon and evaluate the meaning of their own existence and their relationship with others give an opportunity to reflect the aims of the school and to celebrate the values and worth of the school community

3.2 Worship at Christ Church Academy provides opportunities to:

- enhance spiritual development of pupils and adults
- foster reflection, meditation, prayer and silence
- foster a reverential attitude towards God
- foster empathy and imagination, enabling pupils to participate in a variety of ways
- actively involve pupils in worship in creative and imaginative ways (reading, poetry, drama, dance, quiet / silent reflection, prayer, singing)
- involve pupils in planning, leading and evaluating worship
- explore and enjoy praise, prayer and the rituals of Christianity (the Anglican tradition in particular)
- enable pupils to reflect on the experiences of a diverse range of Christian adherents
- explore Christian values to deepen pupils understanding of them and how they relate to the academy, local community and wider world
- learn about and reflect upon Christian teaching, Biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that relates to the pupils' experience and to living together in community
- worship together rather than apart in order to convey the Church being a community of faith
- develop a sense of community and shared values
- foster a thought-provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response
- make regular use of the local church building for special acts of worship

Worship at Christ Church also –

- celebrates achievements of members of our community
- reinforces school expectations and good behaviour as being founded on shared values and the example of Christ

4. Management of Collective Worship

- 4.1** The Foundation Governors, in conjunction with the Governing Body, the Principal, staff and school community, have responsibility to ensure that the daily act of collective worship is consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England. The worship policy articulates the management and delivery of collective worship. In addition, all teachers in a church school are 'spiritual leaders' and have a responsibility to help pupils develop spiritual awareness. Within form groups, the form tutor is responsible for facilitating Basetime Worship using the bespoke resources created each week by the Collective Worship Lead.
- 4.2** The Principal has responsibility for managing collective worship on a day to day basis, ensuring all legal requirements are complied with.
- 4.3** The Collective Worship Lead is responsible for the production of a coherent programme for Collective Worship, which has continuity of Christian teaching and experience and such breadth and balance as is appropriate to the school community. Appropriate music

for worship is arranged by Mr. Harrison, Head of Music and Mr Cannon. Reverend Paul Kingman or our Parish Children and Families Worker Peter Cuthbert lead worship on Thursdays each week.

5. Current Practice

1.3 Each week pupils will experience worship as:

Year Groups: lead by SLT/HoY/ HOH (a celebration of achievements both in and out of school) following a rubric of: opening words of welcome, opportunity for prayer and reflection, hymn/worship music and closing address.

Basetime Worship in forms: Pupils and or tutors lead their form group in basetime worship using the resources prepared by the Collective Worship Lead each week.

Thursday Worship: as a Key Stage, led by Reverend Kingman or a member of Christ Church clergy/youth leader with opening and closing prayers, music for reflection, worship songs and or hymns, a pupil-led drama and readings from scripture.

2.3 Every morning begins with daily prayer. Forms also pray The Lord's Prayer and School Prayer regularly.

3.3

At special times of year, the whole school gathers for worship at Christ Church, Stone. Services are prepared by the Collective Worship Lead, the head of PSHE, the Head of Music and, vitally, by pupils themselves. The Art & Design Technology Department also support the services by preparing special resources.

5.4 We also have visitors and outside speakers who lead our worship on a regular basis. These include representatives of charities, parents, and other people as appropriate.

6. Acts of Worship Framework

6:1 We recognise that there is a difference between acts of collective worship and the assembly of students. On some occasions, assembly may proceed or follow an act of collective worship. When this happens the transition from assembly to worship will be marked in a suitable way e.g. the lighting of a candle or reflecting on an image, a moment of silence or reflection.

6:2 Acts of worship will include some or all of the following activities:

- Music
- Singing hymns and songs
- Readings from the Bible and other sources
- Prayers and times to reflect
- Some thoughts expressed by a member of staff, pupils, or visitors, for reflection

6.3 The programme for the year contains the following:

- The Christian and Anglican calendar
- The life and teachings of Jesus
- Important festivals and traditions in other religions as appropriate
- National and international events, eg. Children in Need; Comic Relief; Black History month; national anti-bullying week and so on

- Other themes of topical relevance as they occur (eg. world events; celebrations; people in the news; sports events, etc)
- Local events and events in school (eg. the start of the school year; leavers' assemblies; charity and outreach events)
- Opportunities to give thanks for success and achievement and to celebrate
- Other themes as they occur, eg. faith in action, people who have challenged and inspired, everyday experience which has a spiritual focus, and so on

7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Further Development

- 7.1** It is the responsibility of the Principal and Collective Worship Lead to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the worship policy, in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team and Governors.
- 7.2** Monitoring involves feedback from staff, parents and pupils and the outcomes are reported back to full Governors' meetings. Regular action plans are written and reviewed to ensure that worship remains relevant and up to date. A planning document for collective worship and collective worship evaluation folder also contribute to this work.
- 7.3** As appropriate, changes are made and new developments introduced into practice.

8. The right of withdrawal

- 8.1** We recognise the right of withdrawal from worship for pupils at the request of parents and for staff. We aim to ensure that there is understanding of the aims and objectives of worship so that all feel invited and able to participate.

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