



Guyhirn Church of England Primary School & Pre-school

Member of the Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust

This policy was ratified in:	February 2016
Reviewed:	March 2019, 2021, 2024
To be reviewed:	June 2026

Collective Worship Policy

Our Vision

Agape – To live, to learn, to love together

Through our Christian values we aim to inspire all of our school community to show equality and tolerance to all in a safe, challenging environment.

Developing resilient, aspirational and compassionate individuals who are enthused by all faiths and lifestyles showing faith and belief in one another.

“Live in agreement with one another. Do not be proud but ready to mix with everyone. Do not think yourself better than others.” - Romans 12:16

“An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks it out.” - Proverbs 18:15

“Love the Lord your God, and love your neighbour as yourselves.” - Matthew 22:37

Our Values

We are a small, family centered Church of England Primary School that is committed to promoting our Christian values of Thankfulness, Compassion, Creativity, Peace, Hope, Endurance, Forgiveness, Tolerance, Kindness, Respect, Trust and Friendship each linked with the core value of Love.

We are determined to create an inclusive culture of learning where everyone will be challenged in their thinking, to succeed to the best of their abilities and strive to become lifelong learners.

We will empower our children to become respected citizens to enable them to make valuable contributions locally, globally and to contribute to our world's sustainable future.

Guyhirn Church of England Primary School Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the school's aims and ethos and will demonstrate the partnership between the conduct and content of school worship and the ethos of the whole school based on our Christian Values of Peace, Hope, Respect, Compassion, Thankfulness, Kindness, Creativity, Tolerance, Friendship, Trust, Endurance and Forgiveness. We consider Collective Worship to be a significant educational activity that both reflects and explores the schools distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of all learners.

Therefore, Collective Worship 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 to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey.

They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection and Stillness, this:

- will contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to".
- will be an opportunity to Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals. Collective Worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

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;
- a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- learning how to behave in a large social group;
- exploring feelings and emotions;
- learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- learning how to respond to a performance;
- making visible the school's leadership;
- developing inner awareness.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Head teacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and Foundation. The School meets this requirement and this is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship with the Head teacher.

Planning a Collective Worship Programme

Specific time is set aside daily for Collective Worship. We recognize the importance of marking the act of collective worship as a special time by, using call and response greetings, asking children to reflect quietly as well as prayer, song and stories. 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 following the half term plan. Our KS2 teacher plans the worship for the half term. There is an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. There are a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning.

The views of pupils about Collective Worship are sought through the Subject leaders and senior leadership team. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective Worship.

Our pattern of Worship consists of:

Monday - World News - Newsround.

Tuesday - Whole School Singing and Worship.

Wednesday - Reverend Janet Phillips lead Collective Worship with Church Warden, Penny Gilbert accompanying her with live music for singing.

Thursday - Whole School Collective Worship - Led by Pupils.

Friday - Whole School Celebration: Act of Worship; once a week the school gathers for this worship, in which the achievements of pupils at the school are celebrated. This worship will normally also provide opportunities for spiritual development.

Visitors

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytizing. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Head teacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Head teacher.