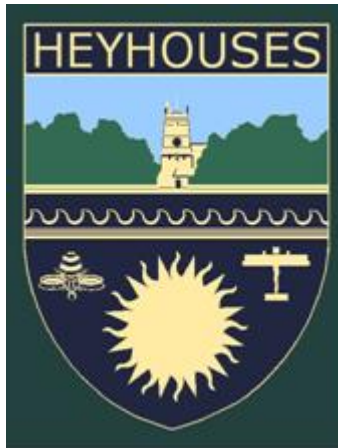


# Heyhouses Endowed Church of England Primary School

## Collective Worship Policy



*“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.” Psalm 150v6*

Collective Worship at Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School is of the highest quality, reflecting our school’s distinctive Christian character and permeating the whole life of the school. Collective Worship is in conformity with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England as laid down in the Trust Deed.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

*"We seek to enable children to reach their full potential  
educationally, spiritually and socially  
so that they may become all that God has created  
them to be"*

Through Collective worship at Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School we aim to draw children and adults into a deeper understanding of their own personal faith and the teachings of Christ. Through the shared experience of school worship we hope that all may feel closer to the Divine presence and gain spiritual resources for their daily life.

At Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School, as in all Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools, the management of Collective Worship is a distinctive role of the governors and head teacher. The Governing Body as a whole is responsible for determining the nature of Collective Worship provided in our school.

At Heyhouses Church of England Primary School:

- Worship develops a genuine sense of being a 'Heyhouses' child, belonging to our school and being part of the team.
- Worship draws on our identified Christian Values of: Love, Trust, Faith, Forgiveness, Friendship, Hope, Respect, Justice, Peace and Courage and is rooted in the Bible and the teachings of Jesus. The children are encouraged to respond in a variety of ways, appropriate to their family background, age, abilities and interests.
- Worship has a huge impact on the school community-it is the pivotal part of the day, setting the direction of the week and day, focusing minds and energy and seeking the guidance of the Holy spirit on the work undertaken in school and beyond. Everything the school stands for and upholds in terms of values and ethos is expressed and strengthened through our corporate acts of worship.
- Worship provides a daily time to be spiritual, to provide a space for reflection, offer a sense of occasion and introduce children to a spiritual dimension of life.
- Collective worship develops children's appreciation of the breadth of Christian traditions & practice through the use of Anglican terminology, seasonal greetings, prayers and collects. Music also provides further evidence of different traditions, from modern songs to traditional hymns. The children enjoy the variety, drawing on different aspects of the Anglican tradition and from the World-wide Christian Church.
- Although Collective Worship and RE naturally compliment and enrich one another they are managed separately and Collective Worship does not form part of the time allocation for Religious Education. However, it is a major aspect of the whole curriculum provided by the school. It is appropriate that, in a Church school, worship and learning is seen as a seamless whole.

- Worship is a vehicle for exploring aspects of Religious Education and the National Curriculum and frequently involves teaching and learning activities such as discussion and question and answer. Pupils may be read to or instructed or they may be asked to listen to readings or to think about and respond to a stimulus such as a work of art.
- Worship is open and accessible to all pupils, including those of another faith.
- Worship is also concerned with the celebration of the curriculum, with pupils displaying or recounting details of what they have learnt.
- Collective Worship is at the heart of daily life at Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School School and the staff and Governors see it as an essential part of all pupils' spiritual education.

**Collective Worship has a distinctively Christian foundation and content.**

Pupils are introduced to the key beliefs and aspects of the Christian faith and helped to explore them. These include:

- the nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- the nature of human beings as children of God, part of his creation and, though sinful, destined for eternal life;
- Jesus as the Son of God who, through his life, death and resurrection, broke the power of evil and restored humanity's relationship with God;
- the central values of forgiveness, selfless love, redemption, goodness, compassion and charity;
- the central place of the Bible as a source of knowledge about God and Jesus and as a source of inspiration and guidance;
- the importance of prayer;
- the central symbols of Christianity;
- the cycle of the Church year.

## **Statement of broad aims**

At Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School we aim to:

**EXPLORE** those questions which are important to everyone. These involve:

- Developing a relationship with God
- Exploring the teachings of the Bible
- Prayer
- What worship is and what people do when they worship
- What it means to have faith
- The faith of others
- Moral issues and concerns,
- Personal values, commitments and beliefs.
- What it means to put God at the heart of school life.

**ENCOUNTER** a faith which is alive through:

- Seeing Christianity in action
- Discovering the basis and essence of worship
- Encountering the nature of God as revealed in Jesus,
- Enabling there to be creative silence allowing personal reflection
- Encountering the awe and wonder of God and creation
- Forming a relationship with God.

**EXPERIENCE** the joy of celebrating God's love!

Aiming for all to:-

- Feel they are part of the school family
- Enjoy worship, Church life and Christian practice
- Know God's concern for all people in all areas of life
- Experience stillness and reflection
- Participate in and lead worship
- Sharing the achievements, joys and difficulties of all members of the school community

A worshipful atmosphere is created and sustained in a variety of ways through:

- Use of music
- Silence
- Appropriate movement into and out of worship
- Setting –altar areas in both hall with candles
- The use of Christian symbols-cross, candles
- Worship will be distinguished from notices and other 'assembly' activities by the blowing out of the candles.

### **Links with the Churches of St Annes**

Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School has a close working relationship with the Parish Church of St Anne, St Annes-on-Sea. The Priest and Curate are regularly in school, leading worship and supporting R.E., chiefly through Confirmation classes held in school time during Year 6. At Key Stage 2 the children attend church for Holy Communion on a half termly basis. Key Stage 1 and Reception children attend church to celebrate key Christian Festivals and as part of their RE lessons eg. Reception children visiting during their work on Baptism.

Heyhouses Endowed C.E. Primary School also has close links with the Parish Church of St Margaret of Antioch, St Annes-on-Sea, and former daughter church to St Annes Parish Church. The school choir and other groups of children represent school at both churches on numerous occasions during the year. The choir sings at Harvest, Christmas and other specific times e.g. when the Bishop is attending worship.

These links enrich our school worship and extend the children's knowledge and understanding of the Church of England. Members of the congregation from both churches are invited to school at different times to talk about their service to the church, their faith or just to experience a special school event such as Jubilee Day.

## Organisation and Delivery

Content is organized with a fourfold approach consisting of:

- The observance of the Church Year
- Half termly themes based on Christian values themes
- Acts of worship which stand alone
- The celebration of children’s achievements

The half-termly Worship Plan is available on our teacher drive and is on the school website for families to access. The Deputy Headteacher collates the worship plan following discussion with senior leaders and the HOPE council.

Daily Collective Worship is provided for every pupil. On Mondays the whole school comes together for worship in the Junior building. Due to the split site nature of our school worship takes place in separate Key Stage groups from Tuesday to Friday.

There is an agreed pattern of weekly and termly worship with key staff rotating:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<b>Whole School Worship</b>	<b>Infant/ Junior Worship</b>	<b>Sung Worship or House Assembly</b>	<b>Infant/ Junior Worship</b>	<b>Infant/ Junior Celebration Assembly</b>
Headteacher	Clergy/ Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher/ Assistant Headteachers	Class teachers/ Assistant Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher/	Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher/ Assistant Headteacher/ BSYW	Class teachers/ Assistant Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher/ Headteacher/

## Pupil Participation

Frequently pupils are involved in leading worship or performing through dance, drama or music. This may be in the form of a class assembly, when parents are invited to watch, or it may be a group of children eg. HOPE Team, Fairtrade Council or School Council leading worship. Once each half term there is also a House Assembly for Key Stage 2 children who meet in cross-year House Groups.

## Visitors

At various times visitors lead, take part in or join us to watch worship times.

Blackpool Schools Youth Workers (BSYW) lead worship each half term.

Parents, family and governors are invited to attend on a regular basis, usually when the children are leading worship, e.g. Christingle Services

## **Parental right of withdrawal**

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship and this provision and its limitations are indicated in the School Prospectus

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England / Methodist Foundation.

This Foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England / Methodist ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate pupils from the religious life of the school.

The school meets together for Collective Worship but there will be times when we assemble together for other purposes, e.g. important notices and announcements. Such 'assembly' times are legally distinct from Collective Worship and parents' rights to withdraw their children do not apply.

We do not currently have any children withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Policy reviewed: March 2018

Next review: March 2020