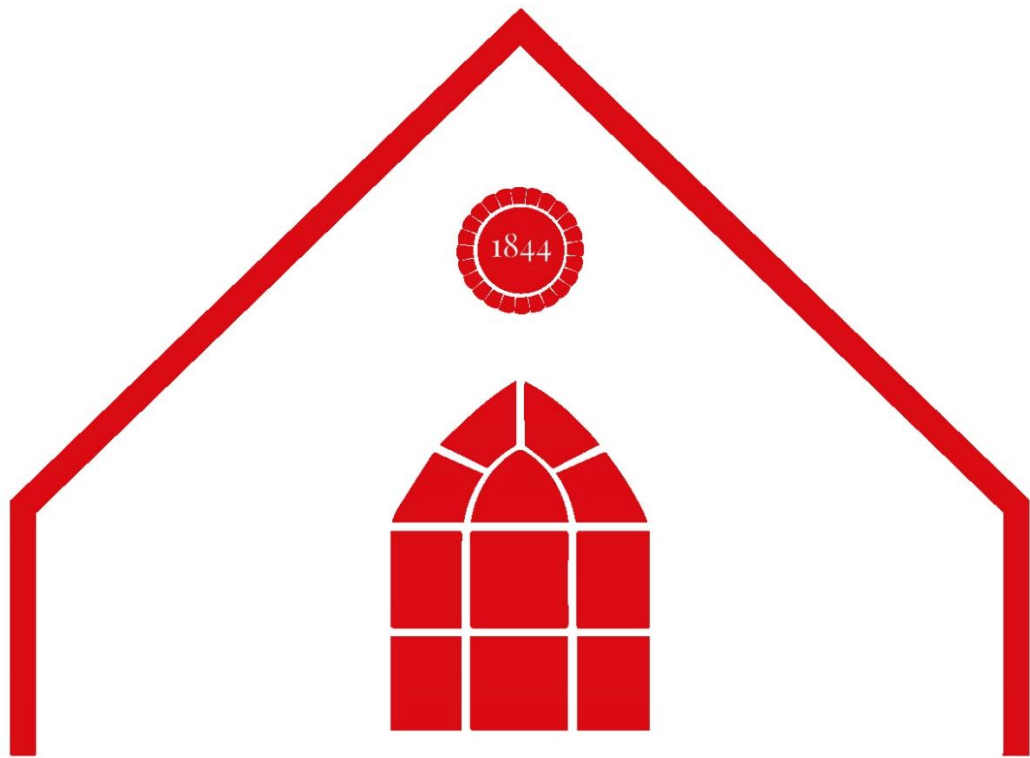




THE RACKHAM
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Number: SCH 102

Date: September 2026

The Rackham C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment.

1. Vision

At The Rackham Church of England Primary School, Collective Worship is a central expression of our Christian vision and values. It is the heartbeat of our school, providing opportunities for pupils and adults to gather as a community, reflect on life's big questions, encounter Christian teaching and explore spirituality.

Our Christian Vision:

1 Thessalonians 5.11: Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.

Our Guiding Principle:

Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

Our Christian Values:

Faith, Hope, Love

Through Collective Worship, we seek to enable every member of our school community to flourish spiritually, academically, socially and emotionally. Worship provides opportunities to celebrate, reflect, pray, question, wonder and respond within a safe and nurturing environment.

Collective Worship reflects the distinctive Christian character of our school whilst recognising and valuing the diversity of faiths, beliefs and worldviews represented within our community.

2. Principles of Collective Worship

In line with Church of England guidance, Collective Worship at The Rackham is:

Inclusive

Collective Worship is a time when all members of our school community are welcomed and valued.

It is accessible to pupils and adults of all faiths and none and respects the dignity, integrity and individuality of every person.

Invitational

Participation in prayer, reflection and acts of worship is always invitational.

Pupils and adults are encouraged to engage in ways that are meaningful and appropriate to their own beliefs and experiences. No individual is expected to pray or respond in a particular way.

Inspiring

Collective Worship inspires members of our community to live out our Christian vision and values through service, courage, compassion, justice, forgiveness, respect and love.

It encourages all to make a positive difference within school, the local community and the wider world.

3. Aims of Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship aims to:

Develop Spirituality

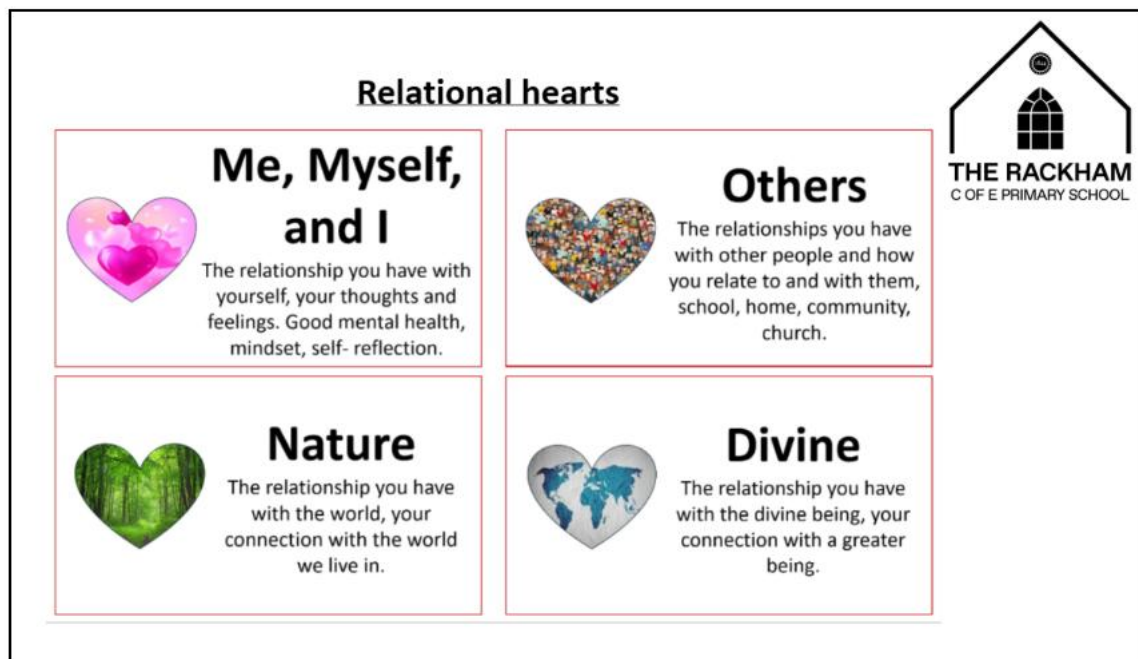
- Foster awe, wonder and curiosity.
- Provide opportunities for stillness, reflection and contemplation.
- Encourage pupils and adults to explore questions of meaning, purpose and identity.
- Enable individuals to reflect on their own beliefs, values and experiences.
- Develop an awareness of God's presence in the world.

At The Rackham, spirituality is the ongoing journey of exploring:

- Ourselves
- Others
- The wider world
- Possibility of God

Collective Worship provides regular opportunities for this exploration through prayer, reflection, questioning, stillness and wonder.

We utilise the four relational hearts at The Rackham to teach our children about spirituality:



Deepen Understanding of Christianity

- Explore Christian beliefs and teachings.
- Encounter Bible stories and Christian traditions.
- Introduce pupils to the language and practice of prayer.
- Celebrate major Christian festivals and the Church's liturgical year.
- Develop understanding of Anglican traditions and practices.

Support Personal Growth

- Promote emotional wellbeing and resilience.
- Encourage respect, empathy and compassion.
- Develop self-awareness and understanding of others.
- Celebrate individual gifts, talents and achievements.
- Encourage responsible decision-making and moral development.

Strengthen Community

- Promote a strong sense of belonging.
- Celebrate diversity and inclusion.
- Encourage responsibility towards others and the wider world.
- Build positive relationships across the school community.
- Support the development of courageous advocacy and social responsibility.
- Collective Worship provides opportunities for pupils to reflect on issues of justice, courage, compassion and dignity, inspiring action locally, nationally and globally.

4. Legal Requirements

The Governing Body acknowledges its responsibility to ensure that Collective Worship is provided in accordance with current legislation.

Collective Worship will:

- Take place daily.
- Be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- Reflect the traditions of the Church of England.
- Be appropriate to the age, aptitude and backgrounds of pupils.
- Be distinct from curriculum Religious Education.
- Comply with relevant education legislation.

Parents retain the legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship.

Staff may exercise their legal right to withdraw from leading or participating in Collective Worship.

Any requests for withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher and will be handled sensitively and respectfully.

5. Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship may take place:

- As a whole school gathering.
- In key stages.
- In classes.
- Outdoors.
- Within the local church.

Worship is planned around:

- The Church Year.
- Christian festivals and seasons including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest.
- School values and vision.
- Local, national and global events.
- Themes relevant to pupils' lives and experiences.

The weekly structure for Collective Worship is:

Monday	Introduction of the theme for the week led by the Headteacher
Tuesday	Collective Worship focus: Old Testament

Wednesday	Collective Worship focus: New Testament
Thursday	Choral Worship focus: singing
Friday	Collective Worship focus: Inspirational people and courageous advocacy: led by the Headteacher

6. Structure of Worship

The school follows the Anglican pattern of:

Gathering

As we come together as a community.

This may include:

- Music
- Lighting a candle
- Opening words
- Liturgical greetings
- Creation of a reflective atmosphere

Engaging

As we explore the theme.

This may include:

- Bible readings
- Stories
- Drama
- Music
- Artwork
- Testimony
- Reflection on current events

Responding

As we consider our own responses.

This may include:

- Prayer
- Reflection
- Silence
- Discussion
- Personal reflection

Participation is always invitational.

Sending

As we leave to live out what we have explored.

This may include:

- A blessing
- A challenge
- A shared response
- Music
- Celebration of positive action

7. Prayer

Prayer forms an important aspect of Collective Worship and reflects the Christian foundation of the school.

Opportunities for prayer may include:

- Adult led prayer
- Pupil written prayer
- Spontaneous prayer
- Traditional Christian prayers
- Silent reflection

Prayer is always offered as an invitation and individuals may engage in ways appropriate to their personal beliefs and experiences.

The Lord's Prayer and other traditional Christian prayers are used regularly.

8. Pupil Leadership

Pupils play an active role in Collective Worship.

Opportunities include:

- Planning worship themes.
- Leading parts of worship.
- Writing prayers.
- Reading Bible passages.
- Sharing reflections.
- Selecting music.

Pupil voice contributes significantly to the ongoing development of worship across the school.

9. Visitors

Visitors make a valuable contribution to Collective Worship.

Visitors include:

- Clergy
- Church representatives
- Christian organisations
- Members of other faith communities
- Community groups

All visitors are expected to respect the school's Christian vision and Collective Worship policy.

The responsibility for Collective Worship remains with the school.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship is monitored and evaluated regularly to ensure it remains effective, relevant and meaningful.

Monitoring may include:

- Worship observations.
- Pupil voice activities.
- Staff feedback.
- Governor monitoring visits.
- Discussion with clergy and church partners.
- Review of planning and resources.
- Considering updates from the Diocese and adapting accordingly.

Evaluation focuses on:

- The impact of worship on spiritual development.
- How effectively worship reflects the school's Christian vision.
- Pupil engagement and participation.
- The effectiveness of pupil leadership opportunities.
- The extent to which worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring.

Findings inform future planning and school improvement.

Evaluation questions:

- How has Collective Worship influenced pupils' understanding of the Christian vision?
- Can pupils explain how worship helps them flourish?
- How has worship shaped behaviour, relationships and attitudes?
- How effectively are pupils leading and evaluating worship?

Monitoring is undertaken by the Headteacher, Collective Worship Leader, Foundation Governors and clergy partners.

11. Links with SIAMS

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the school's distinctive Christian character and supports the Church of England vision for education.

Through Collective Worship, pupils and adults are encouraged to:

- Flourish spiritually.
- Develop wisdom, hope, dignity and community.
- Explore faith and belief.
- Respect diversity.
- Live well together.
- Contribute positively to society.

Collective Worship therefore plays a vital role in enabling all members of The Rackham Church of England Primary School community to 'Build each other up and encourage one another' 1 Thessalonians 5.11

This policy will be reviewed annually and agreed in line with Government guidelines by the Governing Body.

Approved and signed by:

Headteacher



Signed:

Date: September 2026

Chair of Governing body



Signed:

Date: September 2026