



St Barnabas

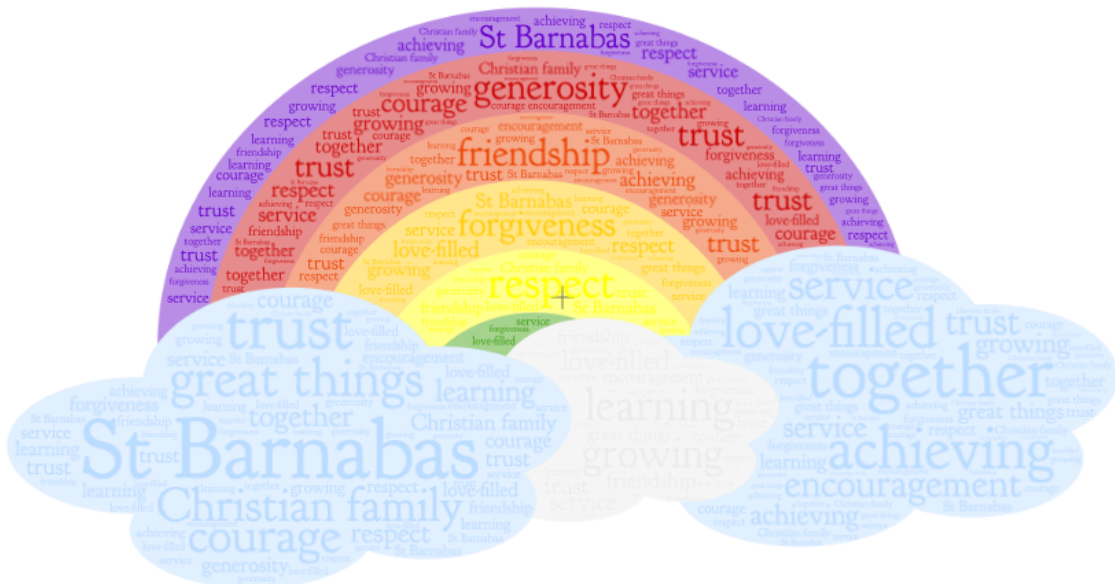
Church of England Primary Academy

A member of **CDARI**

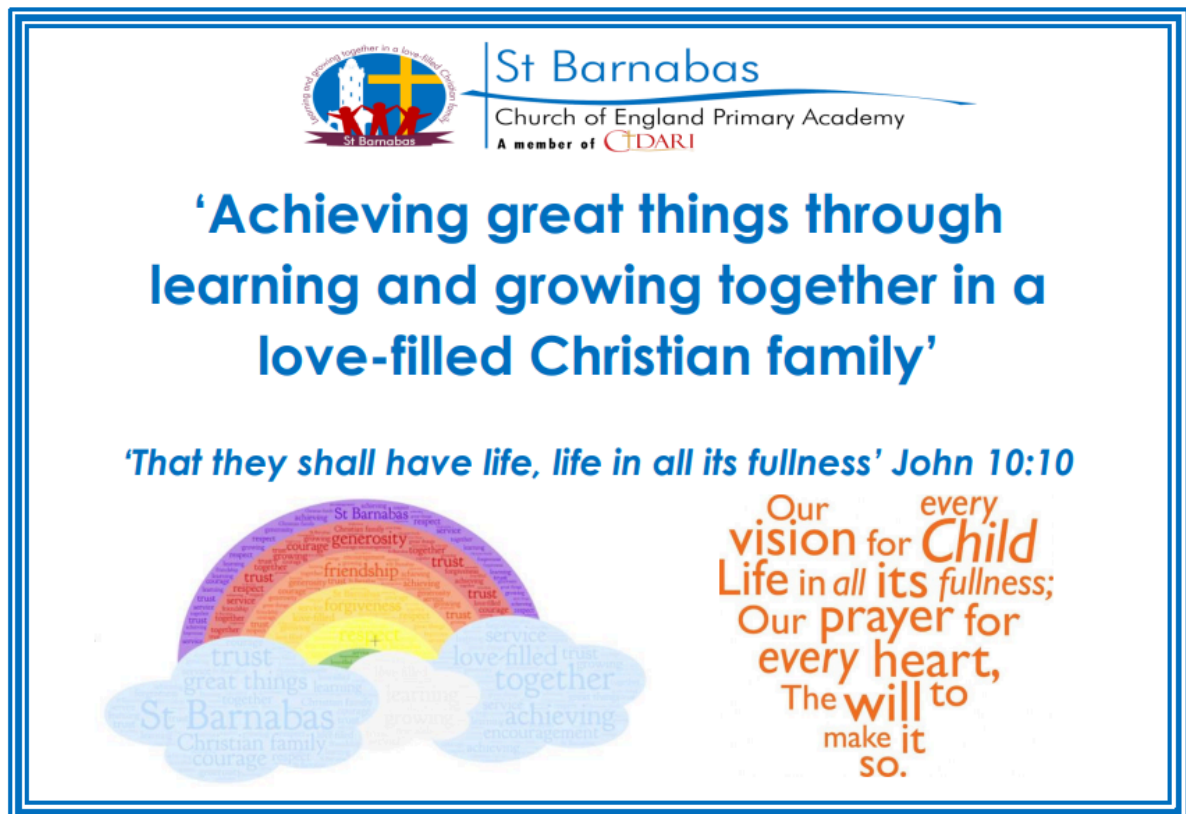
**‘Achieving great things through learning and growing together
in a love-filled Christian family’**

‘That they shall have life, life in all its fullness!’ John 10:10

Collective Worship Policy



Worship Leader- Headteacher: Mrs Becky Ham



1. Introduction

Collective Worship is a cornerstone of our school's distinctive Christian character and plays a vital role in nurturing the spiritual development of every child within our Church of England Primary School. It is an inclusive and invitational practice that reflects our vision of a love-filled Christian family, enabling all members of our community to learn, grow, and experience life in all its fullness.

2. Aims of Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship aims to:

- **Provide an opportunity to encounter God:** Through Christian stories, teachings, prayer, and reflection, we invite children and staff to explore and deepen their understanding of faith and spirituality.
- **Contribute to spiritual development:** By offering time for reflection,

awe, and wonder, we encourage children and staff to develop their own beliefs, values, and sense of purpose.

- **Reinforce Christian values:** Worship will consistently highlight and promote our core Christian values of courage, trust, forgiveness, respect, friendship, service, generosity and encouragement linking them explicitly to biblical teachings and daily life.
- **Foster a sense of community:** Collective Worship brings our school family together, strengthening our bonds and promoting a sense of belonging, unity, and shared purpose.
- **Celebrate achievements and milestones:** We acknowledge and celebrate individual and collective achievements, fostering a positive atmosphere and promoting gratitude.
- **Explore universal themes:** While rooted in Christian tradition, our worship will also explore universal themes of justice, peace and hope, encouraging children to engage with the wider world. We will also explore world views and celebrations from other faiths.
- **Encourage active participation:** We provide opportunities for children and staff to lead, contribute to, and reflect upon the worship experience, fostering ownership and engagement.
- **Promote an understanding of Anglican traditions and practices:** Children will be introduced to elements of Anglican liturgy, hymns, and prayers, broadening their understanding of Christian worship.

3. Principles of Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship will be:

- **Inclusive:** Designed to be accessible and meaningful for all members of our school community, regardless of their faith background or beliefs. While distinctively Christian, it will not proselytise but invite exploration and reflection.
- **Invitational:** Children and staff are invited to participate, with an understanding that while attendance is expected, the nature of participation is personal.
- **Engaging and Age-Appropriate:** Varied in style and content to capture the interest of all age groups, using stories, videos, music, drama, visual aids, and interactive elements.
- **Reflective and Thought-Provoking:** Providing opportunities for quiet reflection, personal response, and critical thinking.

- **Relevant and Current:** Connecting Christian teachings and values to children's lives, current events, and the wider world.
- **Regular and Planned:** Occurring daily, as required by law, and planned by staff, with contributions from children, clergy, and visitors.
- **Led with Integrity:** Delivered by staff who are committed to upholding the Christian ethos of the school.

4. Organisation of Collective Worship

- **Frequency:** Collective Worship will take place daily, as a whole school, in phases, or in class. Monday is our songs of praise Worship, Tuesday whole school collective Worship led by Mrs Ham or Mrs Wilkinson, Wednesday is class worship either Picture News or Worship across the Diocese videos, Thursday is led by either Rev Ben or Rev Matt and Fridays are our Family Celebration Worships. We invite parents to worship on a weekly basis and we encourage them to attend, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the achievements of our children.
- **Timing:** Our Collective Worship is the first thing in a morning to ensure it is a significant and valued part of the school day.
- **Location:** Worship will primarily take place in the school hall, but can also occur in classrooms, outdoor spaces, or at our church for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the Leavers Service. Our choir also attends and sings during Sunday church services for specific events such as Mother's Day, Easter, Christmas and Remembrance Sunday.
- **Leadership:** Worship will be led by a variety of individuals including:
 - The Headteacher and members of the Senior Leadership Team
 - Teaching staff
 - Local clergy and church representatives
 - Children (e.g., through Worship Our Way (WOW) group, Wellbeing Warriors, class worships)
 - Visiting speakers from appropriate Christian organisations
- **Content:** A termly overview for Collective Worship will ensure a

coherent and progressive exploration of Christian themes, values, and significant dates in the Christian calendar (e.g., Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter). It will also respond to current events and school priorities along with incorporating the Worship across the Diocese

- **Planning:** Google slides are created for each act of worship, outlining themes, readings, songs, prayers, and reflection points. These are saved on our website and shared with parents.

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of Collective Worship will be regularly monitored and evaluated by:

- Observation by the Headteacher, SLT, RE Subject Leader, Governors, Diocesan Advisor, Trust CEO and Trustees
- Pupil voice (e.g., through discussions, questionnaires) and WOW group
- Staff feedback
- Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) advisors and SIAMS inspections

This monitoring will ensure that Collective Worship remains vibrant, relevant, and consistently contributes to the spiritual development and flourishing of all members of our school family.

6. Legal Requirements

(a) Legal Basis

Collective Worship in Church Schools is governed by the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as well as by the Trust Deed of the School. The Collective Worship provided by the school is in accordance with this.

(b) Daily Worship

Daily collective worship is provided for every child. This is done as a whole school.

(c) Worship in Church

Worship should normally take place on the school premises, but may take place in Church on special occasions.

(d) Parental rights of withdrawal

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship and this provision and its limitations are- *(The form of words given in the Diocesan/District Syllabus is repeated here).*

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.