



Headteacher: K Lund BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Chair of Governors: J Walker

Deputy Headteacher: R Soper BA (Hons) PGCE
Assistant Headteacher H Chapman BEd (Hons) MA NASENCo Award



St John's CE Primary School

Collective Worship

Action	Date	Signature
Policy Written	2 nd February 2022	<i>Kate Lund</i>
Policy Ratified	4 th February 2022	<i>Jane Brooks</i>
Review Date	February 2025	





Headteacher: K Lund BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Chair of Governors: J Walker

Deputy Headteacher: R Soper BA (Hons) PGCE
Assistant Headteacher H Chapman BEd (Hons) MA NASENCo Award



Aims and purpose

1.1 The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to encourage children to develop respect for others

2. Collective worship

2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. From time-to-time assemblies are held which are not acts of collective worship, at other times collective worship may be only one part of an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the worship by listening respectfully, and encourage children to join in with songs, activities, and prayers if they feel they would like to do so.

2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', as a Church of England School, we base our worship on the teachings of Jesus and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school. For example, children are invited to join in with prayers by responding with 'Amen' at the end, but we respect the fact that some children may not wish to do this. However, all children are expected to respect the faith of others by sitting quietly.

3. Organisation of collective worship

3.1 We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school for the whole school.

3.2 We conduct worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that worship time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, a candle and other appropriate objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children. At the start of each worship the leader says, 'Jesus is the Light of the World, we are all in God's family'. The response is 'He loves every one of us.' All acts of worship include music to enter and leave by; the music is changed each week to provide a wide cultural experience. All acts of worship include a song.

3.3 Prayers are either led by an adult or are written and/or read by the children in the Collective Worship group. Children are encouraged to reflect and relate worship stories to their own lives and experiences. The worship group prepares the hall for our daily acts of worship and frequently take a more active role in leading these.

3.4 The head teacher or other members of staff lead acts of worship most days of the week, but other visitors may also do so.

3.5 Each half term we plan in outline the themes for the half term ahead using a rolling programme of focus Christian Values, and key aspects of the festivals and events of the Christian calendar.





Headteacher: K Lund BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH
Chair of Governors: J Walker

Deputy Headteacher: R Soper BA (Hons) PGCE
Assistant Headteacher H Chapman BEd (Hons) MA NASENCo Award



3.6 Acts of worship also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised.

3.7 We welcome governors' attendance during worship at any time.

3.8 We welcome parents' attendance at acts of worship.

4 Right of withdrawal

4.1 We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

4.2 To comply with regulations the head teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 The policy and practice of collective worship is monitored by the Head Teacher and supported by our Governors. Children's views and ideas are sought, for example through small group discussions and questionnaires. We also sample parents' views.

5.2 This policy will be reviewed every three years.

