



Collective Worship Policy
St Luke and St Philip's Primary School
A Church of England Academy

MISSION STATEMENT

'The family of St Luke and St Philip's will ensure excellence is encouraged, minds are opened, diversity is embraced, respect is expected and talents are nurtured under the umbrella of God's love.'

ETHOS

Our school provides grounding in the Christian Faith for all its children with emphasis on collective worship as part of its daily life. Our Christian values of trust, truth, love peace and thankfulness are built into the ethos and teaching of our school with the support of all Governors and staff for its Christian foundation. We also seek to encourage an understanding and respect for other world faiths.

Purpose

This policy reflects the values, philosophy and Mission Statement of St. Luke and St. Philip's C.E. Primary School in relation to Collective Worship. It is consistent with the school's agreed aims and objectives and sets out a framework within which teaching and support staff can operate. This policy document should be read in conjunction with the "Guidelines for Collective Worship" document which provides further details and advice on the following areas.

- Adult roles and expected behaviour
- Details of Organisation of Collective Worship
- Resources/materials available
- Special acts of collective worship

AUDIENCE

This document is intended to give a clear outline of the School's approach to Collective Worship to all staff, governors and parents. It is also intended for the use of the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education when assisting the development of the School's curriculum and for any authorised inspector. Copies of this document are provided for all teaching staff and are available when necessary to support staff and members of the School's Governing Body. A copy of this document is available for the use of parents.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

To ensure that daily Collective Worship is seen as a central and important part of the education of this school as determined by the Mission Statement.

- To enable all children to experience the togetherness and reverence of joining in acts of Collective Worship.
- To ensure that Collective Worship is provided in line with a broad traditional Anglican framework as set out in the School's Trust Deeds.
- To be mindful of the sensitivities of pupils from other faiths in our school community and whilst recognising that most acts of Collective Worship will draw upon Christian Traditions, we shall be aware of the evidence of God's Spirit in other religions.

The Objectives of Collective Worship Are:

- To encourage all pupils to grow in Christian goodness.
- To encourage children to participate in Collective Worship through sharing their own sensitivities and thoughts.
- To allow pupils to experience and explore the spirituality of traditional and contemporary prayer.
- To provide acts of collective worship in a variety of settings, e.g. classroom, hall, Church as appropriate.
- To give pupils experience of traditional and contemporary worship styles.
- To allow pupils to experience traditional and contemporary religious music, hymns and songs.
- To provide a framework in which stories from Christian and other faith backgrounds can be explored to illustrate moral and spiritual dimensions.
- Through silence and meditation, give children the opportunity to reflect upon their thoughts and their relationship with God.

THE ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AT ST. LUKE & ST. PHILIP'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

In order to achieve the above aims, all teaching staff, support staff, and parents are expected to set a positive example and to encourage children to fully participate in collective worship.

All children should experience an act of Collective Worship at some point during each school day. This may be class based, Key Stage based, or whole school. During the year, services will be arranged in school and Church to celebrate the passage of the Christian Year.

All teaching staff will be expected to attend acts of Collective Worship and lead them as directed by the Headteacher. The school's Vicar will also lead acts of worship, and members of other faith communities will be invited to share our worship where appropriate.

Collective Worship themes will be run on a three-yearly cycle. An overall theme will be given to Worship each half-term and acts of worship will follow this theme. The theme will be clearly communicated to the children at every act of worship, allowing links to be made between PHSCE and RE/CW. Special events in the Christian calendar will be celebrated, as will the festivals of other world faiths.

The subject leader is responsible for planning the half-termly theme and providing suggested ideas for staff to use when leading worship. The plan is displayed on the Collective Worship board in the staff room. Staff will indicate the worship they are to lead, as directed by the Headteacher.

THE ALLOCATION OF TIME TO COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Each school day will normally begin with an Act of Collective Worship between the end of registration (9.05 a.m.) and 9.25 a.m. When special services are arranged, suitable timings will be agreed. During any school day staff may take time with their class to reflect upon incidents or issues that may need a period of quiet reflection or thought.

MATERIAL AND RESOURCES

Materials and resources specifically purchased for use during Collective Worship include music (stored in the C.D. cabinet in the Hall and on the server), worship and prayer books and materials, story books and

notes (stored in the C.W. shelves in the Headteacher's office). Instruments kept in the music cupboard/on the R.E. table may be useful in worship.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

This Collective Worship policy applies equally to boys and girls and no difference will be made between the two genders. Work connected with this policy will appeal equally to boys and girls and reflect the diverse cultural backgrounds experienced by our pupils. Children of all abilities will be expected to participate in keeping with their abilities and maturities.

EARLY YEARS

Pre National Curriculum children Reception should be involved in Personal & Social activities at an appropriate level with appropriate interest. Work planned will take account of the Desirable Outcomes for Children Learning on Entering Compulsory Education (SCAA 1996). Reception attend Key Stage and whole school acts of Collective Worship.

RECORD KEEPING, ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

Each act of worship will be recorded in the Collective Worship monitoring file, which is kept on the worship display table. One act of whole school, Key Stage and Class Worship will be evaluated termly by the Headteacher, the Deputy Headteacher and the Collective Worship Leader. This will be recorded on a proforma which recognises our achievements in Collective Worship. Completed evaluations will be shared with the staff member leading the worship and stored in the aforementioned monitoring file. Pupils will also be invited to evaluate worship, completing a child-friendly proforma. This will be stored in the same folder. All evaluations will then be used by the Collective Worship leader to inform future planning and practice. There is also a scrap book which celebrates special acts or worship and assemblies in which all stakeholders are welcome to comment. This is kept on the alter table.

SAFETY

At all times, staff will consider the safety of pupils and this will be reflected in classroom organisation, and adherence to school procedures and practices.

PRESENTATION/DISPLAY

Emphasis will be made to encourage pupils to take a pride in the standard, quality and presentation of their contributions to Collective Worship. Pupils will be given opportunities to perform moral plays at suitable junctures on a regular basis, such as in a whole school context i.e. assemblies, or as part of class activities.

EXPECTATIONS

At all times, staff will expect and demand that pupils behave during Collective Worship in a way which fully reflects the reflective, respectful nature of worship and contribute, where appropriate, to the best of their abilities.

PARENTAL RIGHTS OF WITHDRAWAL IN A VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOL

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship as they may in any school. The Church of England Board of Education and the Methodist Church states that:

‘The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church 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 or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.’

If such a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher should explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Worship are objected to.

Policy reviewed: June 2018

Agreed by governors: _____

Next review date: June 2020