



# West Heslerton CE Primary School Collective Worship Policy

Our School Ethos:

“Children are at the centre of all we do”

We encourage everyone in our school community to live life well reflecting Christian attitudes and values and working in partnership with families as part of a wider, caring community.

The hallmarks of a Christian life lived well are –

- Love
- Joy
- Self-control
- Peace
- Kindness
- Patience
- Generosity
- Gentleness
- Faithfulness

Galatians 5:22 – 23

## 1. Introduction

West Heslerton CE School is a Voluntary Controlled Primary school, in North Yorkshire, catering for children aged from 4 to 11.

This Collective Worship policy has been designed with our school population in mind. It is written in accordance with guidance from North Yorkshire’s Standing Advisory Council for RE (SACRE).

## 2. Policy statement

This Collective Worship policy reflects the law (i.e. the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act) and strengthens the community ethos of the school.

Collective Worship will take place daily and will be planned so as to be appropriate to all pupils of any religion or none, to enable them to be present and take part as appropriate.

All present should feel valued whatever their faith or personal beliefs. Under no circumstances will pupils be asked to accept beliefs, which are contrary to their family background. They will reflect the beliefs and backgrounds of individual pupils and encourage a voluntary response from pupils.

Worship will acknowledge and respect the responses of individual pupils and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings, delight at life, wonder, joy, rejoicing, sorrow, etc. Collective worship will not assume a shared religious commitment. They will encourage pupils to consider their own place in the community and what it means to be a citizen. The school values the impact of collective worship on the wellbeing of all members of the school community and ensures that collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated by all staff on assembly rotas in assembly file and pupils in pupil voice book.

### **3. The legal requirements: the Education Reform Act 1988**

Collective worship takes place every day through a mix of daily assemblies, whole school and class prayer which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship on grounds of conscience should they wish to do so, but we believe that Collective Worship is inclusive and beneficial for all pupils. Parents are asked to contact the Head Teacher to discuss any concerns.

It is hoped that no child will have to be withdrawn from Collective Worship, but where this is the case school will arrange alternative provision.

### **4. The content of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship follows the Diocese of York's Journey through the Bible resources. We generally follow this pattern:

Monday: Journey Through the Bible Class Worship

Tuesday: Class Worship

Wednesday: Whole School Worship Preparation

Thursday: Journey Through the Bible Whole School Worship

Friday: Whole School Celebration Worship

The content of Collective Worship will be designed to enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils: to provide opportunities for reflection: to celebrate the good, praise achievements and promote recognition of each pupil's own worth and potential.

### **5. Conclusion**

Collective Worship is an opportunity to encourage everyone to become self-motivated, independent people with the confidence to achieve their full social and academic potential.

Policy reviewed by school staff: September 2021

Next planned review: Summer 2022 or sooner if required