

YARDLEY GOBION CE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY
For
Collective Worship

"Using the talents God gave us to achieve and shine"

God's voice thunders in marvellous ways;

He does great things beyond our understanding.

.Job 37: 5



POLICY TITLE:	Collective Worship Policy
POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER:	

POLICY OWNERSHIP:	
School	Head Teacher
Governors	Chair

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	October 2018
POLICY REVIEW DATE:	January 2021

POLICY REVIEW DOCUMENT HISTORY

This policy is monitored by the Policy Owner(s) and will be reviewed every year, or as dictated by school requirements or legislation.

Version	Date	Author	Amendment	Approval / Adoption
1	09.10.18	V.Griffiths		
	11/01/19		Reviewed - No changes	

IMPLEMENTATION / UPDATING

Following approval, it is the responsibility of the Policy Owner(s) to ensure that the policy is:-

- circulated to all relevant stakeholders
- uploaded onto the school website

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Training time to staff and cost of update training.

REFERENCES/LINKS/CONSULTATION

LEGAL COMPLIANCE & EQUALITY STATEMENT

At the time of ratifying this policy, the policy owner was satisfied that, to the best of their knowledge, this document complies with all relevant legislation.

The school is committed to the principles of Equality and under this policy no person will be treated less favourably on grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, gender, marital or parental status, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, proposed or actual gender re-assignment, economic group, employment status, or any other condition or legally protected characteristic which cannot be shown to be wholly justified in relation to the effective operation of the school.

1) Rationale

Collective worship at Yardley Gobion CE Primary School takes place daily in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998.

The content of all our acts of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust deed of this Church of England School.

The policy has been written by the Head Teacher, with agreement from the Governing Body. It will be reviewed every three years.

Collective Worship is a shared experience that allows for a variety of responses, and provides an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on inspiring input and stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity. The school will also offer the opportunity to explore, reflect upon and respond to the mystery and the meaning of the Christian faith.

2) Aims of Collective Worship

We seek to reflect in our worship the Christian foundation of our school and our care for all who work here.

Our central aims of Collective Worship are;

- a) To strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God.
- b) To provide our pupils with regular opportunities for stillness, reflection, praise and prayer and to respond to fundamental questions of life and faith.
- c) To promote children's spiritual, moral and cultural development.
- d) To celebrate the values and worth of this school and the Christian community including the sharing of gifts and talents of all our pupils.
- e) To help children develop respect and understanding of the nature, purpose and language of Christian worship.
- f) To help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others.

3) Practicalities of Organisation.

Venues.

Collective Worship takes place in the school hall or, on regular occasions during the year, at St. Leonard's Church.

Special events throughout the year associated with Christian Church calendar take place at St. Leonard's Church for instance Harvest, Christmas and Easter

When, how often, for how long

There is a daily act of Collective Worship for the whole school. Reception initially in September, gradually building up to all five by half-term. Each Collective Worship session lasts 20 minutes starting at 10.10

Composition and Leaders

Monday	Head Teacher
Tuesday	Parish Priest, Visiting Christian or Teacher
Wednesday	Teacher
Thursday	Singing Focus led by Music lead
Friday	Celebration Worship Head Teacher

Every half-term the school CSALT Team leads a whole school assembly and a Christian artist also leads a session through art.

Occasionally other organisations including other Faith Leaders lead assemblies with prior arrangement.

Involvement of Children

Each class leads their own Class assembly once a year.

Children often participate through reading and acting roles by the Leaders.

Members of the Pupil Learning Council, elected by their class, evaluate Collective Worship using a pro forma.

Involvement of Adults

Parents are invited to attend Celebration assemblies, Class assemblies and all events held at St. Leonard's Church.

The school is well supported by the Governors and in particular the Foundation Governor members. This team regularly monitors Collective Worship sessions providing feedback to the Leaders. They work very closely with the RE subject lead.

All teaching staff attend assemblies regularly and the whole school come together on a Friday for the Celebration event. The whole school attends Church events.

4) Content

We have adopted the Christian Values for the focus of our Collective Worship. These being Hope, Love, Forgiveness, Thankfulness, Peace, Compassion, Justice, Service, Courage, Friendship.

The Parish Priest has a focus on developing the children's understanding of the Holy Trinity and key teaching from the Bible.

Contents include:

- a) Celebration of all the major festivals of Christianity and the journey through the Church year, including the significance of these both locally and throughout the world.
- b) Presentation of Bible stories
- c) Topical matters from the news or the locality
- d) Literature with implicit or explicit religious teaching.
- e) Appreciation of the natural world, human activity, the Anglican Church's commitment to ecumenism and the festivals of other major world faiths.
- f) Appreciation of the talents, achievements and work of ourselves and others.
- g) Visitors who represent organisations who have a brief acceptable to the school.
- h) Prayer in different forms - formal including the Collects, pupil's own, silence
- i) Use of music (this may include tapes as an introduction and conclusion, hymn singing and instrumental playing by members of the school) drama and poetry.
- j) Appropriate artefacts and focal points. (Candle, Cross, Flowers etc.)
- k) Participation by children and staff.

See Appendix 1 for detailed format of the daily act of Collective Worship.

The Collective Worship subject lead and the RE subject lead meet regularly to put together a detailed overview for each focus area.

5) Resources

A wide selection of resources are held within the Head Teachers office.

A selection of artefacts are available within the RE resource area.

A candle and lighter are stored outside the Head Teachers office. .

Music is stored in the unit in the hall.

6) Evaluation, Monitoring and Review

The Collective Worship File is maintained evidencing that the acts of worship are generally compatible with the requirements of the policy and to inform our learning and planning for further developments. Within the file there are regular evaluations of acts of Collective Worship which assist with future planning and delivery. This will be achieved by asking children, teachers or a class to reflect on the worship and these evaluations are part of the ongoing monitoring of Collective Worship at staff meetings.

The Church Group regularly evaluates collective worship providing feedback.

Collective worship will be monitored by discussion at staff and governor meetings. The discussion will include:

- 1) Review of content and methodology
- 2) Suitability for age, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, groupings, leadership
- 3) Links to curriculum and classroom experience
- 4) Resources and budget
- 5) INSET

The Collective Worship Policy will be reviewed every three years. Foundation Governors should attend worship for monitoring purposes and subsequently meet with the Worship Co-ordinator.

7) Withdrawal

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Should any parents make such requests, appropriate arrangements will be made for the supervision of the children following consultation. Parents who have concerns about

provision and practise of our Collective Worship are encouraged to contact the Head Teacher.

Within Yardley Gobion CE School there is an expectation that all staff participate in Collective Worship. At interview staff are asked a question relating to their commitment to the Christian ethos of the school.

8) Single Equality Duty

At All Saints we are committed to ensure that there is equality for all and therefore we follow these points:

- All learners are of equal value.
- We recognise and respect difference
- We foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of cohesion and belonging.
- We aim to reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist
- We base our practices on sound evidence and information
- We formulate and publish objectives **at least every four years**, specific and measurable objectives, based on the evidence we have collected and published.

Val Griffiths (Collective Worship Lead)

Created October 2018 reviewed every three years.

Assembly Format for Monday and Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Guide to Collective Worship Structure

- Collective worship is a highly valued time in our school day
- It is shared, engaging and interactive
- It gives opportunity for praise and reflection
- On most occasions worship links to our whole school theme, however other special events may be the focus

Collective Worship

- Children will arrive in the hall and sit in Year group lines
- Music will be playing that children should listen to in silence - a reflection question or picture can also be displayed.
- When all are ready the Leader will welcome the children, they will respond.
- The Peace should be said together:
Leader: *"May the peace of the Lord be always with you"*
Response: *"And also with you"*
- The candle should be lit - children should be encouraged to do this with supervision and asked regularly to remind us why we light the candle - to represent Jesus as the light of the world.
- Worship will start with a hymn or song. This will be selected from the ones that the children know and have practiced - Mrs Hooper will usually accompany on the piano and have selected the hymn.
- The main body of worship should be through a story or based around a Bible reading linked to our current theme. Wherever possible children should be actively involved in the worship - answering questions, acting out the story, reading, demonstrating etc.
- Time should be given to reflect on the learning from the reading or story - how does this impact our thoughts and actions? Why do Christians value this idea? etc.
- The worship leader should ask children if they would like to join in with the prayer to do so, if not to sit quietly and respectfully. The leader should say a prayer that focuses on the input from the session. Children can also be asked to lead prayer if they feel confident.

- The worship should then finish with a closing prayer - either the school prayer or the Lord's Prayer.
- Any messages that need to be given should wait until this point, when the act of worship has finished.
- The entrance music resumes and classes are dismissed in turn. Children should be silent when leaving the hall, as this is still a time of reflection.

Thursdays Singing

Candle lit and cross on display

Enter to music from the CD

3 songs connected to the theme

Children leave to music as each class is ready.

Friday Celebration Assembly

Enter to music from the CD

Candle lit

Hymn

School Prayer

Prefects leave

Children leave to music as each class is ready.

Appendix 2