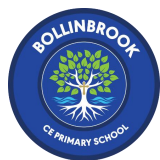


COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

'...like a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit...'

Psalms 1v3



Bollinbrook CE Primary School Collective Worship Policy

Recommended by	Olivia Corker
Approved by	Governing Board
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Legal Status	

CHANGE RECORD FORM

Version	Date of change	Date of release	Changed by	Reason for change
2	January 2021	February 2021	O.Corker / L. Le Marinel	Policy Review
3	August 2023		O. Corker	Policy Review
4	January 2025	February 2025	L.Le Marinel	Policy Review



Mission Statement

... 'a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit...' Psalm 1v3

At Bollinbrook CE Primary the Christian value of 'Love' is at the heart of who we are as a community. We teach our children to be rooted in Jesus Christ so they develop a love of learning that supports their academic, emotional and spiritual growth. If rooted in Christ, children can grow into who they were created to be. Based on Psalm 1v3, 'like a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit...' We are helping our children grow spiritually, emotionally and academically laying firm roots that will provide strong foundations and bear fruit that will help them on the next stage of their educational journey.

POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Overview

Collective worship is at the heart of each school day at Bollinbrook. It provides a valuable opportunity for us to join as a loving Church school family. Worship takes different forms including whole school worship, Worship Praise and class worship. We work in partnership with our Parish Church, St Michael and All Angels, and other local clergy to introduce children to the Christian faith and to provide them with the best possible educational opportunities.

OBJECTIVES OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- To provide an opportunity for adults and pupils to worship God.
- To provide opportunities for all stakeholders to join in worship and develop their own spiritual beliefs.
- To explore scripture and events from the Bible.
- To provide opportunities for prayer (different types of prayer including spontaneous prayer), reflection and stillness.
- To provide opportunities to understand the nature of the Trinity.
- To explore Anglican traditions and practice.
- To promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- To explore our own Church school vision and values and other Christian values.
- To enable adults and pupils to consider spiritual, moral and ethical issues.
- To encourage participation, reflection and response.
- To recognise the diversity of the world we live by developing an understanding of how a variety of world religions worship.



OUR VISION AND HOW THIS LINKS TO COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our Christian vision is:

To support our children and families to grow *like trees firmly planted*—deeply rooted in God's Word, growing in wisdom and strength, and bearing fruit that will last.

Growing with God we want our children to:

- **Be rooted and have firm foundations for growth and learning**, like a tree planted by streams of water (Psalm 1:3), through deep roots in Scripture and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- **Grow in faith and strength**, just as *"the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him"* (Luke 2:40)
- **Flourish as they leave us for the next stage in their lives**, knowing that *"but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last"* (John 15:16)

Our Christian vision underpins all that we do as a Church school. It is the foundation upon which we grow. When planning collective worship, our Christian vision reminds us of the importance of being rooted in Christ. Collective worship reflects our status as a Church school. It offers adults and pupils a time to be quiet and to reflect on the teachings of Jesus through exploring events in the Bible, our core Christian values and our Gospel values. It also offers valuable opportunities to think about the awe and wonder of the world around us along with topical and moral issues. As such, collective worship contributes significantly to the spiritual development of both adults and pupils

Worship at Bollinbrook

At Bollinbrook we consider worship to be a special act or occasion, with the purpose of showing reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in a variety of ways. In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character,' worship is based 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 faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

Collective worship should always be planned to be inclusive, invitational and inspirational. As a Church school, we recognise that within our school community there will be those who are members of the Christian faith, those who belong to other faiths and those of no faith. In any community, it is vital that all members feel included. Collective worship provides us with a special time where we invite everyone to join in an inclusive way that they feel comfortable with. Worship should inspire adults and pupils to reflect on important questions and themes.

THEMES AND TYPE OF WORSHIP

Themes for worship are varied and include the traditions of the Anglican Christian faith and mark the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. We sometimes teach about other significant religious festivals through special events, such as Diwali. At such events we compare the way Christians and other world religions worship or mark significant events. This helps pupils to understand the diversity of the world they live in and encourages mutual respect. However, the act of collective worship remains focused on the teachings of the Bible and the Christian faith. Worship is varied throughout the week and therefore offers a range of opportunities for adults and pupils to worship together as a whole school community, within key stages or as a class.



Type	Day	Focus
Whole school worship	Monday	Biblical teachings / school Christian value
Worship Praise	Tuesday	Worship through song
Class Values Based Worship	Wednesday	Focused on our whole school Christian value or other Christian Values
Whole school worship	Thursday	Biblical teachings / school Christian value
Whole school worship celebration	Friday	Time for reflection and prayer Worship Ambassadors complete Reflection Books (these can also be completed at any time of the week as a personal record)
Class led worship	One class per half term	Class worship where parents / carers are invited to join in an act of collective worship

ANGLICAN TRADITIONS

We follow several Anglican traditions. These include:

- A call to worship – call and response as we gather.
- The lighting of a candle to support understanding that Jesus is the light of the world
- The use of set prayers including the Lord's Prayer and the Grace.

ADULT WORSHIP LEADERS

Worship is conducted by the headteacher, other staff members and Rev Martin from St Michael's church.

PUPIL LED WORSHIP

We believe that pupil involvement in collective worship is important because it can help them to understand how worship can support their own personal and spiritual development. The Worship Ambassadors are responsible for leading acts of worship. Ambassadors, lead and evaluate worship too. Each class leads a worship for the rest of school and their parents over the course of the academic year.



Withdrawal of pupils from Collective Worship

Parents do have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship without any explanation. The Head teacher has a responsibility to provide adequate supervision only, for these children. This does not mean that the children will be in any way exempt from the Christian ethos of the school which underpins the whole of school life.




SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

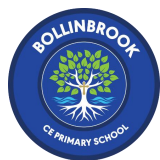
The Church of England's vision for education is for 'Life in all its fulness' John 10:10. This recognises the importance of educating the whole child. The revised SIAMS schedule 2023, references spirituality in religious education (RE), collective worship and the curriculum. As a Church school, we value the importance of spiritual development. We believe that it has an important role to play in supporting personal development and wellbeing for everyone in our school community. Spirituality is personal to individuals. It is not the same as religious belief or faith.

Spirituality provides opportunities to

- be self-aware
- be reflective
- question ideas.
- engage with others' ideas and thoughts.
- be empathetic.
- appreciate and celebrate the awe and wonder of the natural world.
- develop resilience.
- reflect on personal beliefs and viewpoints.
- enjoy moments of stillness and reflection
- be invited to engage in prayer and reflection.
- develop an understanding of the transcendent nature of life.
- explore life's big questions

Through collective worship we have begun to introduce the windows, mirrors and doors symbols to support spiritual development.

		
<p>The window symbol reminds pupils how special the world around them is. It encourages them to think about the awe and wonder of the world.</p>	<p>The mirror symbol encourages pupils to think about themselves and to reflect. The mirror is concerned with how individuals think and feel about what is happening now.</p>	<p>The door focuses on how pupils can respond to what they believe. They are encouraged to think about how they can make a difference by responding to</p>



		what they have. These are the wow moments. (impact)
Questions to consider		
<p>What does this learning mean as I think about my understanding of myself?</p> <p>What does this learning mean for my understanding of others?</p> <p>What does this learning mean for my understanding of God?</p> <p>What does this learning mean for our school community, with our vision?</p> <p>What does this learning mean for the wider world?</p>	<p>What does this learning look like from the perspective of our vision?</p> <p>What difference does this learning make in helping us achieve our vision?</p>	<p>Has there been a change in attitude, behaviour or thinking?</p> <p>What questions has this learning made me ask? and answer?</p> <p>What actions might this learning encourage me to take?</p>

MONITORING AND IMPACT ON WORSHIP

We seek the views of different members of our school community by monitoring worship in several ways. These include:

- Formal and informal observations
- Pupil voice
- Monitoring and evaluation by members of the governing body
- Reflection Books
- Parent / carer feedback of class worship

GOSPEL VALUES

Each week, we reflect the achievements of our pupils through our Gospel Values award, which recognise Christian Values. This certificate focuses solely on the way pupils behave rather than on academic achievements.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Training for staff is delivered in house, by Rev. Stephens or by attendance at training courses which may be delivered by the diocese or other providers

ENTITLEMENT AND WITHDRAWAL FROM WORSHIP

All pupils, whatever their race, gender, faith, age or ability are included in collective worship. Any parent / carer can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship, and we will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the day. Parents / carers do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.



OUTCOMES

Collective worship aims to equip adults and pupils with the ability to worship, to question and to reason and to reflect, enabling them to develop their own value system, to make responsible, reasoned decisions on spiritual and moral matters, and to adopt a sensitive, tolerant view of beliefs differing from their own.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The information gathered in the monitoring process will be analysed carefully by the Collective Worship Leader and Head Teacher together to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the collective worship. Governors are also responsible for monitoring this policy and acts of worship.

A full policy review will take place bi-annually

