



St Andrew's CE VC Primary School

A Church School that learns, grows and achieves together

"Train up a child in the way he should go,
and when he is old he will not depart from it"
Proverbs 22:6

Collective Worship Policy

Signed (Chair)	Name Tony Parker	Date October 2023
Signed (Head)	Name Graham Pike	Date October 2023
Ratified by Governing Body on 3 rd October 2023		Next Review October 2026

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

This policy has been assessed with regard to its impact on equalities issues. The equality impact assessment has been conducted by the relevant Governors' sub-committee and focused on race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity and religion/belief. Community Cohesion has also formed part of the impact assessment work in order to ensure respect for diversity, alongside a commitment to common and shared bonds.

EqIA outcomes

- ☐ The assessment found no areas of potential negative impact and actions resulting in positive impact are in place.

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Policy Statement: Collective worship

Preface: Christian Ethos

"Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness" (1 Chronicles 16:29).

Worship is central to the Christian life. Humans are wired to worship and whilst no individual can be forced to worship, Collective Worship gives the school community opportunities to explore who God is through the stories of the Bible and respond to Him in creative, relevant and engaging ways worthy of His holiness.

Collective Worship and the law

Collective worship in community schools is grounded in the historical past and enshrined in educational law to be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. In Church schools the requirement instead to reflect the Anglican status of the school as expressed in its trust deed liberates those leading collective worship to build on the rich, lived diversity of Anglican tradition and identity. In the same way as worship in churches is aspirational, constantly evolving and being re-imagined there is an expectation of a continuous, dynamic reimagining of what collective worship means in the Church school. (*Collective Worship in Church of England Schools Inclusive Invitational Inspiring Guidance Document 2021*)

Rationale

Collective worship at St. Andrew's CE Primary School is invitational, inclusive and inspiring. Collective worship is a relevant and essential component of an education that enables all pupils to flourish and to *'live life in all its fullness'* John 10:10.

Collective worship will provide opportunities:

- To explore, reflect upon and respond to the Christian faith, moral issues and their own beliefs. Participation and response are encouraged whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered.
- To foster a sense of fellowship, cohesion and common ethos through gathering together as a school community.
- To encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together.

Worship at St Andrew's school aims to:

- Strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member as made in the image of God.
- Help children develop an awareness of the presence of God in everyday life.
- Develop an appreciation of the special relationship between God and people expressed in the life of Jesus.
- Allow reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God
- Provide opportunities for thanksgiving and enjoying the unity which comes from sharing love, joy, friendship, anguish, fear and forgiveness.

- Help children value each other and develop an awareness and concern for others.
- Help develop standards, attitudes and values fundamental to the Christian faith.
- Focus on beliefs and values which the school upholds as a community.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Celebrate and give thanks for achievement within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Contribute to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

Structure:

Worship is daily from 10.20 – 10.40am.

At St Andrew's Primary school, worship is organised in the following way (This organisation is flexible)

- Monday - Whole school worship and Welcome to the week led by the Head teacher/ A member of Cromhall Chapel/St. Andrew's Church.
- Tuesday – Whole Worship led by the Head teacher.
- Wednesday – Singing Worship led by a member of staff.
- Thursday – Class Worship (iSingPop)
- Friday – Whole school Celebration Worship.

Planning and preparation:

- Themes for worship are planned around Christian values. At St Andrew's the resources "Roots and Fruits" and "Values for Life" are used to support the delivery of whole school Worship.
- Each term focuses on one value which links with the season of the Church year.
- Each worship follows the pattern of gathering, engaging, responding and sending.
- Each worship will involve a time of prayer/ and or reflection, music, stillness, discussion or consideration of a bible passage or story. Other stories linked to the theme or value.
- How worship reflects the Anglican heritage:
- The bible is used as a source book for inspiration and learning.
- Reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship e.g. cross, candle
- Celebrating the major Christian festivals and seasons including: Christmas, Easter and Harvest
- Inviting our school community to join us.
- In times of crisis or celebration, there will be additional opportunities to gather and support one another as a community.
- A variety of hymns and well known prayers are used.
- The expertise of staff, pupils, clergy and other adults in facilitating collective worship is supported through regular, up to date CPD and resources.

Monitoring and evaluation:

- Effective evaluation of worship, by governors, teachers and children, will ensure that there is continual review, development and innovation and the requirements of the law are being met.
- The ethos committee are informed of the programme of worship each term.
- Foundation governors will evaluate collective worship and this monitoring will involve meaningful pupil voice. Pupil conferencing will be used as part of the evaluation process with reference made to the following questions:
 - a) What was the theme of today's CW?
 - b) How did it make you feel?

- c) What did it make you think about?
- d) What has it helped you understand about God?
- e) Have you learnt anything new about yourself?
- f) Do you think you will behave differently?
- g) Do you want to ask anything about what you heard/ saw/ thought?

CONCLUSION

This policy has been approved by the staff/ethos committee and governors of the school and will be used in conjunction with other school policies. It will be reviewed every three years.