

Park Street C of E Primary School & Nursery



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Version	1.0
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Name/Title of responsible committee/individual:	
Date issued:	March 2020
Review frequency:	2 yearly
Target audience:	

The governing body shall conduct the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Park Street Primary School is committed to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between different groups. These factors were considered in the formation and review of this policy and will be adhered to in its implementation and application across the whole school community.

Park Street Primary School will promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs and will actively challenge any member of the school community expressing opinions contrary to fundamental British Values, including 'extremist' views.

Version	Date	Notes
V1.0	18/05/2020	Approved by FGB



**PARK STREET C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**



Our School Christian Core Values - Love : Joy: Courage: Truth

Our School Vision – Together We Learn: Together With God: May we find joy in the rich diversity of life He shares with us; show love in how we live out our community lives through Him; have the courage and resilience to live our lives to their fullest, knowing the truth of God’s wonder.

Requirements

The main requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act in relation to collective worship are that all pupils take part in a daily act of collective worship, but not necessarily altogether nor at the same time of day. In an aided school, arrangements for collective worship are the responsibility of the Governors in consultation with the Headteacher, although the whole staff is involved in the formulation, planning and delivery of the policy. As a Church school our worship reflects the requirements of the Trust Deed, that it be conducted in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church of England.

Right of Parents to Withdraw Children

Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship. Those wishing to do so are invited to discuss this with the Headteacher, who makes it clear that assemblies are central to the life of the school.

Aims

We believe collective worship to be central and meaningful in the life and work of our school and in the development of our pupils. Christian values are at the heart of everything we do and these predominantly form the focus for our collective worship.

Within our worship we seek:

- to provide opportunities for the children to worship God
- to develop understanding of the Bible and the Christian faith
- to develop an appreciation of Christian values and how to live by these
- to celebrate Christian festivals and special occasions together
- to encounter and gain an understanding the Christian Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper (Eucharist).
- to provide opportunities for reflection and prayer
- to foster a sense of school identity

- to show interest in and concern for members of the school community and tolerance and respect for each other
- to share interest in the daily happenings in school life, the local community and the wider world
- to share appreciation of worthwhile projects undertaken by individuals and groups within the school and to celebrate achievement
- to encourage children to live out the Christian values of: joy, courage, truth and love.
- to foster the child's spiritual growth, developing a sense of awe and wonder
- to foster respect for religious and moral values and tolerance of other religions and ways of life.

Important Principles

1. We believe that our assemblies should be inclusive: all should contribute to and gain from them. This means that those leading assembly need to consider:
 - the age, aptitude and abilities of the children.
 - the range of the children's backgrounds: regular churchgoers, those from other faiths, those from a secular background. Worship should be invitational whilst allowing freedom for those of other faiths or none to be present with integrity.
2. We believe that our assemblies should be intentional learning experiences, with careful planning and preparation, whole-hearted delivery, evaluation and adequate resourcing.
3. We believe that our assemblies should not be discrete learning experiences, but that they should have strong links with the curriculum (especially with the 'Understanding Christianity' material) and extend into the life and work of everybody in the school.

Planning

The organisation of our worship is as follows:

Monday	Years 1 - 6	Themed Worship
Tuesday	Years 1 – 6	Key Stage Worship
Wednesday	Years 1 – 6	Bible Worship
Thursday	Years 1 – 6	Music Worship
Friday	Whole School	Shared Class Worship

On Mondays the Headteacher usually bases her worship upon the Bible Story that is reflecting the Christian value that is the focus for that week. She may also cover religious festivals or national and international events.

Tuesday Worship, in Key Stages, can reflect: the bible story read that week: the core value: a religious festival; a nation/ international event or a British Value. The worship is led by the class teacher or by the children themselves.

The Vicar of Holy Trinity, Nick Weir or the curate or children's worker, leads worship each Wednesday separately with KS2 and KS1. These are Bible-focused. As they enter KS2 all children are presented with a Good News Bible by the Vicar on behalf of Holy Trinity Church. These are used in Wednesday Worship and in class. The Park Street Baptist Minister also shares in this ministry on a regular basis. Each of the clergy has a copy of our coverage of Christian values and will try to encompass these where they are able.

One purpose of our Thursday worship is to learn and practise hymns and songs, some of which take our Christian value as their theme. A 'budding musician' performs during this assembly.

Our Celebration Worships are an opportunity for the whole school to come together to celebrate some of our achievements during the week. The classes take it in turns to share their work and successes, with the whole school and their parents/carers.

During every worship there is always a prayer time and this usually includes either The Lord's Prayer or our own School Prayer. The leader may also leave a time amongst prayers for private prayer and reflection.

Visitors are invited to school to lead worship or assemblies, as appropriate to the theme being covered.

Pupils are involved in planning, participation and evaluation of worship through the Collective Worship Crew (CWC) which meets every other week in term time, led by the Vicar of Holy Trinity.

Our Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' services are held in Holy Trinity Church, led by the Vicar with each class contributing to the service.

Preparing for Worship

1. Some points to bear in mind when planning:

- Have you allowed adequate time?
- Create a time / sense of occasion for worship
- Does the worship have a clear beginning and ending?
- Ensure the act of worship is separated from administration
- Link worship to the life of the school
- Using the right language is important
 - for the age group

- recognising the 'theology' (what is being said about God, His people and His world).

2. Using different approaches - involving people and providing a variety of worship experience. Consider:

- Telling a story
- Describing a situation / event
- Drama
- 'Part' speaking
all of which need to be presented in an appealing way, with voices which are loud enough and 'listenable'
- Using visual aids / artefacts
can provide powerful illustrations, but shouldn't be so powerful that they are remembered at the expense of the message
- Music
can be used to listen to - as well as for singing. A well-chosen piece of music can help create an atmosphere for worship and reflection
- Silence
is important in allowing time for thought and reflection
- Involving pupils
- Using visitors

A classroom act of worship may lead children into a quiet, creative activity such as writing or painting.

Class Prayer and Reflection

This is led by class teachers, usually at the end of the morning and afternoon, in a way suitable for the age of the children - prayers written by the children; reflection and responsive prayer.

Evaluation and Review

Our collective worship is evaluated in different ways including 'pupil voice', CWC, observations by staff, colleagues and by the Governor with responsibility for collective worship.

Reviewed by T Facer March 2014

Reviewed by O Bullock April 2014

Amended by T Facer May 2014

Amended by T Facer September 2016

Amended by N Weir and W Foster January 2020