

Collective Worship Policy

MISSION STATEMENT

Friendship Faith Future

Friendship

- To respect and care for each other with kindness and compassion
- To value and contribute to our community and work in close partnership
- To ensure that our school is a place where friendships are nurtured and cherished

Faith

- To engage in meaningful collective worship and religious education
- To benefit from diverse opportunities for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development rooted in the Christian faith and our Christian values
- To enable everyone to develop a sense of their own spirituality and have respect and understanding of their own and other cultures, beliefs and religions

Future

- To enable everyone to develop their God-given potential in a supportive, creative and inspirational environment
- To become curious and resilient learners, making the most of learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom
- To thrive in an environment where efforts and successes are appreciated and celebrated

To celebrate 'life in all its fullness' (John 10.10)

The Nature of Collective Worship.

We believe that Collective Worship in our Church of England school is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.

Legal Requirements.

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups.) It is our aim that all assemblies include collective worship. **See appendix 1.** The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

At Shipley CE Primary School responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the head teacher.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

We endorse the belief that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions – or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can seek inspiration.

Worship at Shipley CE England Primary School is an integral part of school life and central to the Church of England tradition. As a Church of England community we endeavour to support the pupils in their understanding and development of spirituality, so that through reflection, pupils will gain insights and attribute meaning and purpose to personal existence

The Aims of Collective Worship.

Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs and those of others
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and to develop community spirit, promoting a common ethos and shared values
- To reaffirm, interpret and put into practise the values of our school

- To develop the skills of:
 - Reverence
 - Contemplation
 - Reflection
 - Interpretation
 - Empathy
 - Meditation
 - Prayer
 - Silence
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding.
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Church of England tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To develop a sense of awe, wonder and inspiration in the person of Christ.
- To consider the beliefs of others and explore different faiths
- To explore faith in a local, national and international context

Principles

Acts of Worship at Shipley:

- Give glory and honour, praise and thanks to God
- Provide a quality experience, fundamental to the life of the school and its Church of England character
- Give children positive liturgical experiences based on sound educational, pastoral and liturgical principles that are appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.
- Be inclusive in response to the needs of all pupils
- Reinforce the sense of community in our school and enable the sharing of whole school values
- Celebrate the various achievements of the community
- Appreciate and develop positive values, with special emphasis on our core school values
- Have breadth and balance
- Are planned strategically and will be evaluated and reviewed regularly
- Celebrations will:
 - be focussed and appropriately paced
 - be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

*Please see **appendix 1** to see how Collective Worship is organised within Shipley Church of England Primary School*

The Planning, Content and Delivery of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is planned:

- Following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, "Values for Life", Roots and Fruits, significant dates and the curriculum. The Bible will be central in the majority of acts of worship with worship themes rooted in Christian beliefs.
- Involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to school aims and policies
- With the involvement of the school's Worship team, an elected body of pupils
- In line with the latest SIAMS Self-Evaluation Toolkit, a range of staff and the clergy will be regularly involved in planning and leading collective worship. Pupils should also be involved in planning and leading acts of worship and have frequent opportunities to do so.
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community, including national and international events.
- To develop in pupils, skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship
- To create the right atmosphere for worship to ensure that pupils respond in a positive way
- To allow pupils to reflect on, affirm and celebrate shared values and aspirations
- So that the intimacy of the environment is maximised. This can include changes in seating arrangements. It will be quite distinct from other activities and have a focal point for worship with symbols, pictures and artefacts

The format for Collective Worship for our school will be:

- ❖ **Gather and focus** – how we come together, the setting, the environment (quiet reflective music, lighted candles, icons etc.)
- ❖ **Proclaim** – every worship will centre around at least one text from the Bible.
- ❖ **Respond** – The response may lead into drama, art, music, poetry, discussion, communal prayer or questioning of meaning.
- ❖ **Go Forth** – Giving the children something to hold on to from the experience of the liturgy that they can take into their daily lives and consider their beliefs

Resources

Appropriate visual and display resources are sources through children, staff, parents and the church.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- on a collective worship planner to keep a note of the theme, leader, gather and focus, proclaim, respond and go forth
- through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayer books, reflections, photographs, videos etc.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At meetings of the Ethos and Worship Committee the planning of the school's provision of worship will be monitored and evaluated to consider whether they meet the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in

organising and leading worship. Evidence drawn from reports of Governor visits to collective and class-based worship will also be reviewed. Pupils, including the Worship team, are also consulted to evaluate collective worship through a questionnaire given to a range of children across the year groups.

*Please see **appendix 2** to see a timetable for when Collective Worship is monitored and evaluated within Shipley Church of England Primary School*

Voluntary Worship and Retreats

- RE days and Trinity – the whole school focus and curriculum links are based on gaining a deeper understanding of aspects of RE and the Holy Trinity through the arts

Eucharist

Communion in school will highlight a special occasion. Communion services are carefully planned in consultation with Reverend Sinton to ensure the content is appropriate. The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school worship, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised

Daily prayers

In consultation with the Reverend Sinton, a list of prayers that children will be expected to know and be familiar with by the end of each year group has been compiled.

*Please see **appendix 3** for a list of these prayers*

Daily prayer sessions in each class will include:

- The Lord's Prayer
- Lunchtime grace
- School Prayer
- Prayer of St Richard (KS2)

The right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the daily act of collective worship if they wish.

The Co-ordinator for Collective Worship

The Head teacher is ultimately responsible for Collective Worship within our school:

- To formulate a written policy for Collective worship
- To ensure that Collective Worship forms part of the School Improvement Plan
- To ensure that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitude and family backgrounds of pupils
- To ensure that Collective Worship takes account of the religious education needs of all who share in it
- To organise themes for Worship

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- To assist the governors in carrying out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship

With regard to planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- To maintain and develop effective procedures and documentation
- To observe on occasions, an act of Collective Worship
- To inform the Governors of standards and developments in Collective Worship
- To complete the Self-evaluation Toolkit for CofE Schools in conjunction with members of school staff and the governing body to prepare for SIAMS inspection

With regard to communication

- To communicate to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts of Collective Worship
- To report to and consult with the governors regarding matters of concern and development
- To act as consultant to colleagues
- To encourage positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- To inform newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- To communicate with parents, governors and the parish community
- To liaise with Reverend Sinton
- To liaise with the Diocesan RE Centre

With regard to professional development/ongoing formation

- To lead and organise in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- To attend appropriate in-service courses and report back
- To keep up to date by personal reading and liaison with colleagues in other schools

With regard to resources

- To evaluate existing resources
- To develop the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- To budget efficiently

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Collective Worship Co-ordinator and is evaluated and reviewed annually. The Foundation Governors in particular will play a most important role. The Ethos & Worship committee will support planning, monitoring and reviewing Collective Worship.

Appendix 1

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP WEEKLY TIMETABLE AND PROVISION

	Aims	Place	Visual focus	Atmosphere	Music/Hymns	Pupil involvement	Staff involvement	Pupil response	Activities	Prayer/s
Monday (every other week)	To reinforce share and spread the Gospel message from the previous day	School Hall	Bible Candle/s Cloth in Liturgical colour Display with Gospel related artefacts quotations Words for hymns	Reverent Respectful Reflective Questioning		Hymns Prayer responses Reflection Procession of Bibles?	Leader: Rev Sinton Gospel Reading Leading prayers Asking challenging questions	Reflect on Gospel Wonder Be curious Answer Questions	Gospel Reading Prayer	Prepared Prayers linked to the Gospel
Tuesday	To reaffirm, share and develop the values of our school KS1	School Hall	Bible quote	Quiet Reflective	Hymn	Meditation	Leader: Headteacher	Guided reflection on Christian values	Pupil involvement based on 'Roots & Fruits Christian Values Themes'	Related to the current value
Wednesday	To strengthen and enrich the 'Values for life' value appropriate class level emphasise the teachings and Practices of the Church	Individual classrooms	Display with related artefacts, quote from Tuesdays collective worship, Bible	Reverent Respectful Reflective Questioning	Key Stage related-selected by lead Class Teacher	Consider beliefs and Practices Pose questions Sharing of experiences	Leader : individual Class Teachers Lead Reading linked with Values for life topic	Read age-related Bible	Considering how the Topic influences our lives and enhances our understanding & beliefs – pack of activities developed by Headteacher	Children's prayers linked to the current value
Thursday	To further develop the values of our school KS2	School Hall	Bible quote	Quiet Reflective	Hymn relating to the bible reading	Meditation	Leader: Member of school staff	Guided reflection on Christian values	Pupil involvement 'Values for Life' – Diocese of Gloucester	Related to the current value
Friday	To gather as one body and celebrate all of our talents	School Hall	Golden Book Bench	Communal Sharing Giving Silence	Children's choice	Birthdays Prayers	Leader: Member of school staff	Share through questioning Celebrate and affirm talents	Presentation from children	Children's own prayers

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- All Acts of Collective Worship include Prayer and Music/Hymns

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIVE WORSHIP CELEBRATIONS THROUGHOUT THE CHURCH'S AND SCHOOL YEAR

Half term	CELEBRATION	AIMS	LEADER/ COORDINATOR	CONTENT	PLACE	OTHERS INVOLVED/INVITED
1	New School Year	Develop positive attitudes and a sense of belonging Share our school values and ethos	Rev Sinton Head Teacher	Prayers for the new school year	Hall	Our school community
	Harvest	Develop an understanding the tradition of Harvest Festival Share what we have with those less fortunate and highlight our roles in giving and charitable work/s To give as God gives and live fruitful lives	Rev Sinton Headteacher	Harvest festival display Bible focus	Hall	Parish, family and friends
2	Christingle Advent	To celebrate Jesus being the light of the world and the gifts we receive as a result of this	Rev Sinton Headteacher	Making a Christingle	Church	Parish, family and friends
3	Epiphany Candlemas	Celebrate the Epiphany Welcome back in the new term	Head Teacher	Liturgy Prayers by children	Hall	Our school community
4	Lent and Easter Holy week	Clarify the meaning and events of Holy Week and explore our own spirituality Explore when darkness turned to light and the power of goodness over evil	Headteacher Individual class teachers	Each day linked to event Daily collective worship Lessons linked to Holy week events	School	Parish, family and friends
	The Resurrection of the Lord	To celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Welcome back in the new term	Head Teacher	Prayers for the new school year	Hall	Our school community
5	Pentecost	To know God's presence and celebrate the birthday of the church	Head Teacher	Contributions from the children	Hall	Our school community
6	Trinity	Celebrate Trinity and explore spirituality related to three in one To explore God's never ending love	Head Teacher	Lessons linked to exploration through The Arts. Contributions from the children	School	Our school community
	Leaver's Service	Share emotions and consider our friends as some of them leave our school family	Rev Sinton Year 6 teacher	Presentations by year 6 children	Worth Abbey	Staff, family and friends

Appendix 2

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP MONITORING AND EVALUATION TIMETABLE – ETHOS & WORSHIP COMMITTEE

<u>AUTUMN</u> <u>Term 1 & 2</u>	<u>SPRING</u> <u>Term 3 & 4</u>	<u>SUMMER</u> <u>Term 5 & 6</u>
Evaluation of acts of collective worship Monitoring of planning and content of collective worship & class worship	Evaluation of acts of collective worship Policy review and amending Review of resources	Evaluation of RE questions and pupils' understanding of Trinity Monitoring of planning and content of collective worship & class worship Pupil's questionnaire

Appendix 3

KEY STAGE 1

- The Lords Prayer
- Lunchtime grace
- School Prayer
- Responses at Church Services to prayers and the Gospel reading

KEY STAGE 2

- As above
- Prayer of St Richard