



Tibberton and Hindlip CofE First Schools Collective Worship Policy



Collective Worship Co-ordinator: Mr A. Gromski

Policy agreed: Summer 2025

Review Date: Summer 2026

Chair of Governors: Mr A. Clarke. Head Teacher A. Gromski

Governor with responsibility for Collective Worship: Mrs L Dickens / Revd L Handy

Vision, Aims and Values of our Schools

'Grace is a gift from God.' (Ephesians 2:8)

Our school federations distinct Christian Vision permeates all aspects of school life, including religious education. The heart of this vision is our commitment to serve with *Grace*, giving our very best in all we do, providing a broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum which allows our pupils to flourish. This vision is supported by the values we teach, the Christian Values chosen by children, parents, staff, governors and our local community. Values of:

Respect Love Friendship Truthfulness Courage Perseverance

Our school federation aims to provide the best quality education possible in a stimulating environment where children feel happy and safe. With our Christian Vision and Values forming the foundation of our ethos, we offer a caring and tolerant atmosphere for learning where cultural diversity is valued.

We aim to help each individual flourish.

THE PLACE OF WORSHIP IN OUR SCHOOL

Collective Worship holds a truly significant place in a Church School, it should be the 'beating heartbeat' of the school. It will be deeply Christian and serve the common good as it helps our pupils explore their spiritual development, explore our Christian Values and helps our children understand about 'Grace.' It is not just an assembly, it is an act of worship.

At its heart Collective Worship should be a transformational encounter. It is an expression of our distinctive Christian Vision. Within this, worship at its core should be transformational. We will therefore always ask ourselves: 'Is Collective Worship enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritually?'

For our school Federation we have an agreed definition of Spirituality agreed by our school communities (see spirituality Policy):

'Spirituality at school means feeling connected to something bigger than just ourselves. It's about being amazed by the world around us, asking lots of questions, and feeling inspired to help others and take care of our planet. It's like trying to be kind and helpful to others in a really special way, just as we try and serve with Grace.'

It is important to our school federation that Collective Worship in our two schools reflects our Anglican foundation and enables the spiritual flourishing of those in the school community. This sits alongside our statutory obligation under the 1988 Education Reform Act which requires all such schools to arrange a daily act of worship.

There will sometimes be points of overlap with the RE programme offered by the school. Worship can never be the sole or even main vehicle for delivering RE. It does, however, make a powerful contribution to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children.

At our schools we hold a daily act of worship, which is of Christian character, reflecting the Christian tradition and our core school Christian values. We follow the principles below:

- Collective Worship is rooted in and driven by our Christian Vision.
- Collective Worship should be inclusive and we aim to cover the whole 4-9 age range.
- Collective Worship should contribute to the Religious, Spiritual, Moral and Cultural Education of our pupils.
- Collective Worship should enable the spiritual flourishing of our pupils and our community.

Collective Worship should offer pupils opportunities to:

- Explore and share beliefs;
- Explore our school's core Christian values and increase learner's experience of a range of Anglican traditions, including the Eucharist.
- Consider and reflect upon the importance of prayer, meditation and silence;
- Consider the relevance of ideas and beliefs to their own lives, and thus help in the development of their own faith;
- Think about others and their needs and to develop a sense of community which encompasses gender, age, race and opinion;
- Appreciate the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold differing ones to them;
- Re-affirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school;
- Celebrate the various achievements of members of the community that are held to be of worth;
- Celebrate the shared values of the school together thereby encouraging fellowship;
- Feel a sense of wonder at the beauty and mystery of the world;
- Share emotions such as love, joy and hope, friendship, acceptance and forgiveness;
- Be introduced to various aspects (prayer, hymn, drama, art) of worship in an open and honest atmosphere.
- Take part in Anglican traditions.

Our daily collective worship is far more than just a fulfilment of statutory requirement. It is the beating heartbeat of school life. It provides an opportunity for the whole school to share individual successes and to reaffirm our commitment to our accepted ethos and to praise and thank God together. We like to set the scene with the children entering the room quietly to music. A formal greeting starts the assembly. The lighting of three candles to signify the Holy Trinity is used to mark the beginning of our prayers and quiet reflection. A cross is situated in our focus area. Other visual aids and Anglican symbols may also be used including coloured cloths for the assembly table that are changed according to the church season and an Advent Crown. For safety reasons children are not involved in lighting the candle, although monitors are responsible for organising the music and setting out the cross and candle on our focus table. We may also refer to symbols from other faiths where relevant.

We have an agreed structure to our Collective Worship, which reflects liturgical Anglican worship:

1. *GATHERING* - We join together with a welcome greeting
2. *ENGAGING* - We explore the theme for our Collective Worship
3. *REFLECTING* - time to silently reflect, think, pray, sing
4. *SENDING OUT* - this is where the inspirational nature hits - what have you learnt, we have heard etc. now go and live it!

See appendix for agreed call and response

Collective worship is planned from a variety of sources, including Imaginor resources, to cover our core Christian Values. Each half term will focus on a particular value. Special days, special people and festivals from other religions form part of the Collective Worship programme. Each assembly usually includes a story with a message or moral, a chance for children to participate, a thought to share and reflect upon, prayers, and a hymn. Children may lead our prayers, singing or whole assembly. We have also mapped our high quality texts to use in Collective Worship across the school year which reflect our Christian Values.

We also have a time each week when we celebrate the achievements of individuals - this may be good work, good effort, good behaviour or the recognition of sporting/musical achievements outside school. We include our weekly sung worship concluding with reflection on values and prayers. The words to the hymns are discussed, and the time spent improves the quality of singing for the purposes of worship.

We observe the cycle of the church calendar and have a collection of prayers and hymns that create a framework for worship in our school. We also acknowledge events such as Remembrance Sunday. We also observe major festivals of some other faiths eg Eid, Divali, Hannuka.

We plan our assemblies to link with our core Christian Values

Respect, Love, Friendship, Truthfulness, Courage, Perseverance

We also may use the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) topics during the year. SEAL themes: New Beginnings, Getting on and falling out, Say no to bullying, Going for goals, Good to be me, Relationships, Changes. This is linked to our published PSHE and RSE curriculum.

For Worship to contribute to the Spiritual Development of our pupils we aim to:

- Celebrate all that is good and lovely about life - especially our school, our community and our beautiful natural surroundings.
- Provide opportunities for children to share what is meaningful and significant to them.
- Make links to explore and reflect our Christian values.
- Give time for silent reflection.
- Provide an environment, which is conducive to worship.
- Ensure our worship is adequately resourced.
- Invite responses from the children.

Our CREW worship teams of children lead Collective Worship fortnightly. They plan their assembly around the value for that half-term using Imaginor resources. Their assembly involves responses and participation from the whole school.

All teaching staff take a turn in leading. We also invite other Church representatives to our assemblies. "Open the Book" teams currently hold a weekly assembly. Representatives from other religions may also be invited to take part in assembly in order to give children a better understanding of other faiths. A member of the teaching staff is always present and is responsible for introducing and concluding the assembly.

We have special assemblies, sometimes held in Church to mark Harvest, Christmas, Easter and our Year 4 children moving on to Middle School. Parents and other visitors are invited to these assemblies.

Children keep a record of assemblies including an evaluation to allow us to assess the ongoing impact of Collective Worship and the pupils understanding of our Christian Values.



The Gathering

Welcome everyone. We have come together so we can...

- Learn
- Sing
- Celebrate...

And share God's love of the world.

Pupil response – 'We are welcome.'

Sending Out

May God grant the world and our school [VALUE] and make it a place of Grace.

Pupil response – 'Amen.'