








Collective Worship Policy

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To be reviewed	Headteacher, Link Governor and Collective Worship Leader
Authorised by	Headteacher and Governors

 **Holy Trinity's Vision:** 
For each learner to develop

 a strong moral compass,

 God given Christian values,

 and a love of learning.

Collective Worship Policy For Holy Trinity CE Academy, Calne
Aims of Collective Worship

At Holy Trinity Academy, Collective Worship aims to:

- Strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God
- Allow reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
- Contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others – a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others
- Provide members of the school community with the opportunity to:
 - Praise and reach out to God
 - Experience stillness and quiet
 - Respond to Christian language and symbolism
 - Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future

Intent

At Holy Trinity our Christian vision shapes all that we do.

As a school, it is our intention to provide our pupils not only with academic ability but also with the character and moral compass that will assist them to positively flourish as part of wider society. We aim to provide them with a moral compass and a set of Christian values that have stood the test of time and will provide our pupils with a solid foundation from which to build.

In line with the Church of England's Vision for Education – 'Life in all its fulness' (John 10.10) – our intention is that Collective Worship helps us to educate for wisdom, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and for developing a community where there is understanding and people can live well together.

We recognise that as a school we have a responsibility and a privilege to help individuals to thrive both in their own right and as part of a community. This community extends from local, through to national and even as far as international. Collective Worship plays an integral role in bringing the school together each day as one such community.

To this end, Collective Worship is an integral part of each school day where children form part of a school community that extends their individual class experience. It may take shape as a whole-school event (at least twice a week) or a key-stage event. At least once a week, parents are invited, and on a regular basis other groups from the locality participate (Open the Book; Calne Free church; charity groups). To bookend each week, all class teachers attend Collective

Worship and this is seen as integral in demonstrating that we are one school community all together.

Through collective worship pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and challenges of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian calendar, so pupils can develop spiritually.

Each term, Collective Worship has a focus on one of the values that the children nominated to represent Holy Trinity Academy. These values are:

- Hope
- Compassion
- Friendship
- Forgiveness
- Respect
- Courage

The value in focus will then be taught through a collection of Bible narratives, real-life examples and stories that highlight its application. Each week, each class is also allotted reflection time so that each individual can consider the value and the impact it has on them.

As the pupils from Holy Trinity come from a rich variety of backgrounds and experiences, it is important that Collective Worship is inclusive. To enable this, we often invite children across the school to participate if they would like to. This may be through acting out, helping with the slides, singing or creating sounds as an audience. At the same time, prayer is offered as an act of communal worship, but it is invitational, and pupils may remain in quiet reflection or be withdrawn if this is expressed.

Implementation

Collective Worship takes place at 9:10am from Monday to Thursday, and from 2:45pm on Fridays.

On Mondays and Fridays, the whole school gathers together. This is in recognition of the fact that we are a family together. Bookending the week like this helps us to share values and build a community with shared vision. All teachers attend worship on these occasions. It is an opportunity to open and close the week together.

Parents and relatives are also invited to attend Friday Collective Worship and we celebrate achievements both from within and from beyond the school.

Each week, there is also time for singing practice and for Key Stage collective worship.

Every teacher participates in the delivery of Collective Worship, again highlighting that we are one school community that all work together and recognise the importance of the values to our collective wellbeing.

Collective worship includes the act of singing together, as well as prayer. It is also a time when children reflect on Bible narratives and these may be acted out or delivered by other community groups (such as Open the Book and the Calne Free Church). The local vicar – Reverend Bush – also contributes frequently to Collective Worship sessions.

In Autumn, we focus on ‘HOPE’ and ‘COMPASSION’.

Hope is an important theme at the start of any new school year, and reflecting on kindness is also important as we look to build and strengthen relationships in every new year.

In Spring, the focus changes to ‘FRIENDSHIP’ and ‘FORGIVENESS’.

Friendship makes us think about what is important to us in the wake of Christmas and forgiveness is central to the Christian message at Easter.

In Summer, ‘RESPECT’ and ‘COURAGE’ form the focus.

As the children start to think about moving on, these two values will aid them to transition well and continue as a collaborative part of the community.

Impact

The impact of collective worship will be seen in the day-to-day interactions of our school community. This pertains to adults as well as to children.

The aim is that behaviour in school models these values and that where it doesn’t, children can reflect on what to do to improve their contributions to their peers and school body.

The Subject Leader and link-governors will monitor and assess the impact of collective worship. Amongst other methods this will include by talking to pupils.

Staff meetings will also focus on the role and impact of collective worship to staff.

Legal Requirements

Holy Trinity is a Church of England Academy and as such it has a Trust Deed which states that worship should be ‘in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England’.

In accordance with legal requirements (School Standards & Framework Act 1998) an act of collective worship, taking account of the age, aptitude and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents.

The governing body of this school have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist

Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Schedule. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact of worship on the school community in consultation with the headteacher.

In line with the 1988 Education Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' the majority of our collective worship is based on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian church. We use the Church of England's 'Values for Life' resource to promote the teaching of Christian values. Our collective worship will on occasions also reflect other religious traditions that are represented in school and the wider community.

At Holy Trinity Academy we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents, of course, have the legal right to withdraw their children from collective worship. We would ask any parent considering this to contact the head teacher to discuss any concerns or anxieties they may have about the policy, provision and practice of collective worship at Holy Trinity Academy. The academy expects that withdrawal will only be made following discussions with the headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. The academy has a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from acts of worship.