



Collective Worship Policy

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

Our Mission Statement

As a Church of England School, our Christian values embrace and inspire all our achievements.

Nurturing – We feel safe, valued and able to take risks.

Inspiring - We all explore learning in fun and exciting ways

Achieving - We celebrate our successes and look forward to the next challenge.

Collective Worship Policy For Holy Trinity CE Academy, Calne

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Collective worship in a Church school should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and developing community and understanding of living well together.

At Holy Trinity Academy worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. It is well-planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A school is not a Church but is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of education. The family backgrounds may be very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils.

At Holy Trinity Academy collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through collective worship pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain 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. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

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.

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.

Rationale

Because we aim for acts of worship to be inclusive of all pupils there is an expectation that all pupils will be present. Careful planning and preparation ensure that there are clear learning intentions for pupils. Collective worship is first and foremost for the educational benefit of all pupils. It is a shared activity that allows for a variety of responses and provides an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity. The academy is committed to respect the integrity of the religious communities from which pupils come.

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.

Aims of Collective Worship

At Holy Trinity CE Academy, Collective Worship aims to:

- Strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God
- Give expression to, reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- 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
 - Experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, thanksgiving, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others, and quiet reflection
 - Helping pupils to understand the nature and purpose of worship
 - Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future

We ensure that the principles for collective worship are reflected and applied in our policies and practice including those that are concerned with:

- Pupils' personal development and wellbeing
- Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education (SMSC) and Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- Staff recruitment, retention and professional development
- Care, guidance and support
- Behaviour, discipline and exclusions
- Working in partnership with parents, carers and guardians
- Working with the wider community

We also ensure that information about collective worship is included in the school prospectus and / or on the school website.

Structure

In Holy Trinity CE Academy, worship is organised in the following way:

Day of the Week	Key Stage 1 and Early Years	Key Stage 2
Monday	Whole School Collective Worship 9.10-9.30 am	
Tuesday	9.10-9.30 am Worship through music	9.10-9.30 am Worship through music
Wednesday	Whole School Collective Worship 9.10-9.30 am	
Thursday	Key stage collective worship 9.10-9.30 am	Key stage collective Worship 9.10-9.30 am
Friday	Whole School Celebration Collective Worship 2.45- 3.15 pm	

Collective worship is led by members of staff and visiting speakers e.g. open the book, on a rota basis.

Due to the current situation regarding Covid-19, Collective Worship is carried out daily in each year group. On a Monday and Wednesday there is a class assembly planned from the Theme of the week, on a Tuesday and Thursday the children have opportunities to reflect on the previous assembly. They can record their thoughts in reflection books.

On a Friday there is a celebration assembly held in each class. We are no singing at the present time, but each assembly ends with a prayer.

Planning and organisation

We use the Church of England's 'Values for Life' resource which promotes the teaching of Christian values to support the planning of our worship.

In planning worship regard is given to:

- Observing the cycle of the church's year and selecting themes appropriate to this and the pupils' aptitude and ability
- How worship reflects the Anglican heritage, i.e.
 - Using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning.
 - Reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship (for example, bread, wine, chalice, cross and crucifix are symbols which lead to an understanding of the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection)
 - Observing the cycle of the Church's year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost.
 - Participating in the regularity and set order of Anglican worship. This recognises the central significance of the Eucharist while acknowledging the

variety of other forms of worship, which may be decided locally to match, as far as possible, pupils' experience in school and church.

There are special services from time to time, eg. welcoming new pupils to school or acknowledging the departure of older pupils.

- Identifying a collection of prayers, hymns and psalms which creates a framework for worship within the school.
- Learning traditional responses and prayers which express the essential beliefs of Christians throughout the ages
- Providing opportunity to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of Christian worship.
- Recognising that the Anglican Church has a strong commitment to ecumenism which may be expressed through the range of visitors who are invited to lead or attend collective worship.
 - Experiencing the bond of community which encompasses gender, age, race and religious opinions.
- Linking with the broad dimensions of the curriculum.
- Creating an atmosphere for worship using appropriate music, visual foci and symbols.
- Using the whole range of creative arts to appeal to the pupils' imagination.

Recording and Evaluation

Acts of worship are planned and recorded. Acts of Worship are linked to the weekly collective worship theme which is drawn from the Values for Life scheme and recorded on a weekly collective worship timetable. The person leading Collective Worship completes a planning sheet which they are asked to put on the school server. There is an evaluation of how worship was received. This is achieved by asking a child, teacher or class to reflect on the worship in class reflection books and/or by recording thoughts on the planning sheet. These evaluations are part of the ongoing monitoring of Collective Worship.

Monitoring

The Collective Worship will be monitored by:

1. Discussion with staff, pupils, Collective Worship subject leader and governors.
This discussion will include:
 - Review of content and methodology.
 - Suitability for age, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, groupings, leadership.
 - Links to curriculum and classroom experience.
 - Resources and budget.
 - INSET.
2. Review of job description and role of collective worship subject leader.
3. Asking are the requirements of law being met?

We ensure that this policy is known to all staff and governors, parents and carers and, as appropriate, to all pupils. This policy is available on our school website.