



Collective Worship Policy

St Chad's C of E Primary and Nursery School Policy	
Title of Policy:	Collective Worship Policy
Date Policy adopted:	Autumn 2024
Written by/Author: (Job Title and name)	R.E. Coordinator C Speed
Review Cycle:	Every 2 Years
Review Date:	Autumn 2026

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Jeremiah 29:11

Vision and Values at St Chad's CE Primary and Nursery School

Our Christian Values are at the heart of our school and create a loving environment that promotes the care and nurture of the whole community. Our school vision is at the core of this policy: *With God's guidance and love for us, we provide a Christian family ethos, where everyone matters and all are encouraged to reach their full potential. In a welcoming, inclusive and nurturing environment, we lead everyone to a future with hope.*

Our core values underpin this policy and are reflected in all our work and relationships in school: Truthfulness, Hope, Thankfulness, Forgiveness, Courage, and Justice. These values support our pupils and underpin our approach to behaviour management.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner in light of any advice from the Chester Diocese Board of Education.

Collective Worship Policy

Our daily act of Christian worship underpins our vision and we consider Collective Worship to be at the heart of our school; an important and special time within our school day together. As a school, we also recognise that worship should be inclusive, invitational and inspiring with opportunities for reflection. Collective worship strengthens and supports the Christian distinctiveness of our school, develops our Christian vision, reaffirms our values and celebrates the contributions of every child and adult within our school community.

We have a strong partnership with Over St Chad's C of E Church and aim to share worship regularly both in school and at church.



Responsibility for Collective Worship:

- Collective Worship is planned by members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) alongside members of the church and the Vision Group
- There is an expectation that all SLT will lead worship and all staff are welcome to lead a collective worship if they wish to do so.
- Each class, with their teacher, lead a morning worship on a rota basis, centred on our core values and with resources provided.
- Class teachers are responsible for their own classroom collective worship, which follows our half termly core value and ideas/suggestions are provided by the Vision Group through the half termly worship plan.

Aims:

To provide an opportunity for pupils to:

- worship God in their own way, developing their own spirituality and relationship with God
- consider and reflect upon social and moral issues
- look out to the wider world and take note of events through the appropriate expression of joy or sorrow
- explore their own beliefs and values
- develop spiritually through exploring the important questions about life and creation
- develop an understanding of the Trinitarian Nature of God
- explore Global Christianity and similarities and differences around the world
- gain knowledge, understanding and respect for other World Faiths and their traditions.

To encourage pupils to respond and participate through:

- active involvement in collective worship through a range of creative opportunities e.g music, silence, symbol, story, drama and through the study of our composer of the term
- reflecting on the impact on their own lives of important issues

To celebrate life in school in the presence of God by:

- building a sense of community in school developing and reflecting on the values of our school
- celebrating work undertaken by pupils in all areas of the curriculum which reflect our vision of a future with hope

To promote a common ethos and shared values reflecting the Christian tradition, yet with regard for the faith communities represented within the school.

To reinforce positive attitudes through deep exploration of our core values and their impact on everyday life.



The Organisation of Collective Worship:

Monday	Most weeks this will be a singing and praise worship led by the music lead. Each half term a composer of the half term worship is used to explore an issue with the children. If the beginning of a term is a Monday, then the Headteacher will lead worship on a theme linked to the term's value.
Tuesday	Alternate weeks Over St Chad's vicar will lead a Bible based worship with either KS1 or KS2 based on the current value. The classes who are not part of this worship will have a values based class worship and reflection time with planning provided through the collective worship rota.
Wednesday	Each class on rota will lead a values based worship with their teacher.
Thursday	Alternate weeks the Headteacher will lead Godly Play for KS1 and Window on the World for KS2. The classes who are not part of this worship will have a values based class worship and reflection time with planning provided through the collective worship rota.
Friday	Celebration worship will take place and the whole school will reflect on achievements and learning during the week. Children and staff will receive certificates based on the characteristics of learning and parents will be invited by phonecall to attend. Any families may join this worship time. At the end of each half term we will celebrate the whole half term and a privilege card for each class will be awarded. Children will lead prayers on a rota.

Children are also given the opportunity to worship in a variety of settings at significant points of the year e.g St Chad's Church, Chester cathedral, outdoor reflection area.

Worship is inclusive and open to all members of the school community regardless of ability, background or age.

(There will only be exception for pupils whose parents have requested, in writing, the right to withdraw their children due to faith commitments. In these cases alternative arrangements will be made through the Headteacher.)

The Principles of Collective Worship are:

- Respect for all members of the school community.
- Sensitivity to the ideas explored and beliefs shared i.e. recognition as a special time within the school day
- opportunity to share values and experiences informing pupils about the Christian faith and to sensitively draw out any similarities and comparisons with other major world faiths represented by the pupils attending school
- celebrating the work and word of God and the life and teachings of Jesus



In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our collective worship on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our collective worship in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

Monitoring and review

The Governors, regularly attend collective worship and evaluate collective worship in their role. Our vision group meet regularly to reflect on and evaluate worship.

Children's views on collective worship are sought. Changes have been made, where practical, following consultation with pupils. Foundation Governors have evaluated collective worship.

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years.

Date adopted by the Governing Body: ____ **Sept 2024** _____

Signed: __ **C Denby** _____