



## Christ Church C.E. Primary School- Collective Worship Policy

**This policy is intended to ensure consistency across the school in terms of Collective Worship. It is intended to be read in conjunction with the R.E. policy.**

“Christian worship is concerned with bringing praise, prayer, thanksgiving and adoration to God. It is an activity of response: in words, actions and thoughts.”

From **Collective Worship in Church Schools**, Diocese of Lichfield

### **Collective Worship should enhance learning through:**

- Fostering a sense of fellowship by bringing pupils together to celebrate shared values of the school and the community
- Providing an experience of being part of a caring community
- Developing reflection on the fundamental questions of life, focusing attention on those things which are eternal to human beings
- Providing an opportunity for celebration and thanksgiving
- Developing a concern for the needs of others, and empathic awareness
- Providing a time for sharing successes and failures in personal, school and community life
- Providing an opportunity to share and value emotions such as love, joy, hope, friendship, acceptance, anguish, fear, reverence and forgiveness
- Developing an understanding of faith

### **Agreed Procedure:**

- Acts of worship at Christ Church CE Primary School must be of a **broadly Christian character**, reflecting the broad traditions of **Christian belief**, and have regard for the **age, aptitude and family background** of pupils
- Formal Collective Worship – children are encouraged to plan & lead worship on a regular basis.

Monday- Open the Book worship led by the Open the Book team including local vicar

Tuesday- Sing & Praise worship led by the head teacher

Wednesday- Class worship

Thursday- Whole school worship- led by the headteacher and/or by pupils

Friday- Whole school celebration worship- led by the headteacher

- Worship themes are chosen to reflect our school Christian Values (please see the second page of this policy for more info), the seasons, special events in the life of the school and community, Christian festivals together with festivals and values from other religions. Topical events e.g. natural disasters in the news, saint's days, charity appeals, Book Week, outside guests etc are included as appropriate.
- A song of praise or hymn chosen in conjunction with the weekly theme will be sung during the time of worship and pupils and staff will be invited to take part in prayers. The following phrases may be used: Now I'm going to say a prayer and if you want to make it your prayer, say Amen at the end; The Lord be with you, pupils respond: And also with you.
- Silence may be used to reflect on the issue explored rather than voicing a prayer in words
- Pupils will be encouraged to share their thoughts, feelings and ideas
- Pupils will be encouraged to participate in an active way by joining with singing and prayers, making music, reading chosen passages or their own prayers and dramatising chosen stories
- Music is played as children leave and enter the hall. This serves to set the mood for spiritual development when children may reflect on their own beliefs and those of others.
- Acts of collective worship may take place at Christ Church as well as on the school premises, for example: Christmas Service, Easter Service and Leavers Service
- Parents retain the right to withdraw their children from collective worship
- Teachers and headteachers retain their right not to participate in acts of worship but we actively encourage all to attend

### **Is this working?**

- Do visitors to our worship time feel the sense of our school as a caring community?
- Do the children value our times of collective worship?
- Are the children proud to stand up and celebrate in worship time?
- Do the children actively involve themselves at worship time?

**Our Christian Values, include the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths & beliefs and include our School Golden Rules**

Month of the Year	Value	By this we mean . . .	A symbol
September	<b>Responsibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking care of our own things</li> <li>• Being prepared &amp; doing our own learning</li> <li>• Being independent, taking on jobs</li> </ul>	A book bag
October	<b>Truthfulness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being honest</li> <li>• Telling the truth, even when it's difficult</li> <li>• Making the right choice</li> </ul>	A light bulb
November	<b>Friendship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having fun, playing &amp; sharing</li> <li>• Caring about each other &amp; showing it</li> <li>• Helping &amp; supporting each other</li> </ul>	Linked hands: different skin colours
December	<b>Peace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feeling secure, safe &amp; calm</li> <li>• Sitting, standing, walking &amp; talking well at school</li> <li>• Getting along with each other</li> </ul>	Dove- with olive branch?
January	<b>Respect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valuing our differences</li> <li>• Being polite; using kind words, kind hearts &amp; kind actions</li> <li>• Treating others (&amp; things) as you would like to be treated</li> </ul>	The World
February	<b>Trust</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doing what we say we will</li> <li>• Being reliable</li> <li>• Working together</li> </ul>	Anchor
March	<b>Forgiveness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saying sorry</li> <li>• Making friends again &amp; moving on</li> <li>• Being understanding</li> </ul>	Water
April	<b>Perseverance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always having a go and trying your best</li> <li>• Keeping on trying when it's tricky</li> <li>• Aiming high &amp; having a positive attitude</li> </ul>	Shoe with laces
May	<b>Courage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being brave &amp; strong</li> <li>• Doing something that is scary</li> <li>• Being confident to express own views, standing up for others, speaking up</li> </ul>	Lion
June	<b>Compassion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being kind, caring &amp; thoughtful</li> <li>• Treating others as we would like to be treated</li> <li>• Being tolerant &amp; sensitive</li> </ul>	Heart
July	<b>Thankfulness</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being polite &amp; saying thank you</li> <li>• Appreciating others</li> <li>• Appreciating the world around us, even the small things</li> </ul>	Present with bow