



Collective Worship Policy
Darrington CE Primary School

Introduction

At Darrington CE Primary School, we strive to equip pupils with the skills to become lifelong, motivated and independent learners by providing a curriculum that is broad, balanced and relevant to their needs. We work extremely hard to enable all of our pupils to have the enthusiasm, confidence and skills to achieve their full potential.

Shine, Share, Flourish

We **shine** our light for each other
We **share** peace, respect and friendship
We **flourish** and grow together

“Your word is a lamp to my feet, a light to my path.” Psalm 119

This is a Church of England School. We welcome all children and their families from the local community. Looking towards Jesus Christ as our example, we aim to provide a quality education that enables all children to shine within a caring Christian environment. We also aim to create a happy, safe environment where children and adults can respect and value each other. We encourage children to take pride in belonging to our school and all that it offers. We foster skills such as co-operation, tolerance, understanding of others and a respect for differences. We aim, through our actions within the life of the school, for pupils to encounter the Christian faith in an open and exploratory way. We aim to develop the knowledge that some people have a Christian faith that they value and by which they choose to live. Others may have a different faith or no faith. We encourage children to learn to respect world views and beliefs which are different to their own. We trust that by our actions we will lead children to want to search for a faith that has meaning for them.

We encourage everyone to shine, share and flourish as unique individuals and together as a school. We aim to equip children with the confidence, knowledge, skills and understanding to positively shape their future. Our Christian values underpin our school vision. The three Christian values that were chosen by staff, governors and children in support of our vision are:

Peace, Friendship, Respect

Ethos

As a Church of England Academy (previously a Voluntary Controlled School) we welcome the opportunity to place the Christian faith at the heart of everything we do. We maintain a Christian ethos of support and acceptance where each individual is valued as unique and created in God’s image. Collective Worship is an integral part of the daily life of our school. The ethos of our school is based on Christian Values and our emphasis on spiritual, moral, social, cultural development is guided by the teaching of Jesus Christ. At Darrington CE Primary School, Collective Worship reflects the traditions of the Church of England and develops learners’ understanding of Anglican traditions and practice. We plan and deliver acts of worship that are invitational, reflective and engaging.

Our Christian Values

At Darrington CE Primary School, our Christian ethos permeates the daily life of the school. We use Christian Values to promote and develop children's spirituality and create an environment where all children are valued as individuals and given every opportunity to grow and flourish. Our values determine the sort of person we are or become.

Whilst our school seeks to reflect many Christian Values, the following three have been chosen as 'Core Values.' We believe that an understanding of these values, and integration of them into school life, will help equip our children as they develop relationships within our school community, the local community and within society as a whole. Our core values are: **Peace, Respect and Friendship.**

A different Christian value is explored each half term and used to nurture a sense of awe and wonder and to encourage our children to reflect and ask questions of purpose and meaning. Children are exposed to Bible stories and encouraged to make links to their own lives. We also help prepare the children to participate fully and contribute to life in modern Britain, we also actively promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, equality of opportunity for all and respect for and tolerance of different faiths and religious beliefs.

Aims of Collective Worship

The aspiration is to provide Collective Worship that does the following in our school:

- To explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values
- To explore their own religious, spiritual and philosophical ways living, believing and thinking
- To help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- To offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- To enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.
- To give staff and pupils a time for reflection
- To foster respect for other faiths and viewpoints

Content

We strive to ensure that all our worship delivered, is invitational, inclusive and inspiring. Our worship reflects some of the essential features within the rich traditions of Anglican worship and may include:

- Using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning
- Reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship
- Observing the cycle of the Anglican year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost etc
- Following the colours of the liturgical calendar in our Collective Worship
- Collective Worship provides an opportunity to learn about other faiths

Organisation and delivery

Daily Collective Worship is provided for every pupil. Over the course of the week, worship takes place as whole school, or in classes. This is followed up with in-class discussions and activities such as in Candle Time at the end of the day.

Collective Worship is led by a variety of staff, pupils and other visitors and usually lasts 20 minutes.

Picture News is used weekly on Tuesdays as a resource to promote discussion and knowledge on a topical current news story. Pupils are given the opportunity to develop respect for other's beliefs, feelings and faiths. It encourages exploration, discussion, challenge and inspiration to learn.

Every Friday, we lead Proud Assembly, which celebrates BLP (Building Learning Powers) learning behaviours that the pupils have demonstrated throughout the week. We also celebrate how pupils have shown different Christian Values, and demonstrated their ability to be Leading Lights.

Collective Worship is led termly by each class family and parents are invited to share in this special time.

The Collective Worship Leader is Mrs Ranby, Headteacher. The role of the leader is to:

- Plan and produce guidance on the themes for Collective Worship throughout the year
- Organise staff, and invited guests to lead Collective Worship
- Adapt the plan in response to local, national or world events
- Develop an adequate range of resources for Collective Worship
- Ensure staff and governors are aware of and use the Collective Worship policy

Statutory duties

Church of England schools are required to reflect the Anglican status of the school. Parents are entitled to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. As our school's daily act of worship embodies the caring ethos of our school family, it is hoped that all children will be present. We respect each individual's faith and culture and is fully invitational and inclusive.

Policy title	Collective Worship Policy
Monitoring and review	Headteacher
Links	Equality Statement, Behaviour Policy, RE policy
Staff responsible	Headteacher
Committee responsible	Pupils and Standards Committee
Date approved	March 2023
Review date	March 2025