



Christ Church

Church of England Primary School

Being Thankful, Celebration, Fairness, Forgiveness, Honesty, Love for All

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Our Vision

Successful and outstanding in all we do.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Phil 4:13

Our mission statement is:

Have Faith, Take Responsibility, Show Respect and Achieve.

- Have Faith – to believe in yourself, if you have a religion, strengthen your own faith
- Take Responsibility – for yourself, your actions, the environment
- Show Respect – towards everyone
- Achieve – work hard, persevere, be resilient and strive to be the best you can be

The ethos of our school is embedded in our Christian values:

Honesty, Forgiveness, Love for all, Celebration, Fairness' Being Thankful, Ambition and Resilience

"God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth".

John 4:24

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and this policy supports this commitment.

Policy approved: October 2016 by policy committee

Reviewed: October 2019

Next review October 2022

Embedding Pupil Safeguarding Awareness in the Curriculum

All teachers incorporate elements of safeguarding into their lessons where appropriate. This involves:

- Informal conversations;
- Teacher/pupil discussions;
- Briefings for outings and trips (road safety/stranger danger etc) ;
- The implementing of our e-Safety Policy regarding ICT usage;
- An awareness of any potential hazards in lessons – identifying risks and dangers;

Safeguarding is also about pupils' emotional well-being. Teachers encourage pupils to speak out if there is something worrying them, or if they are aware of, or witness something unacceptable, untoward or disturbing. Teachers promote tolerance and respect for each other and acceptance of individual differences. Teachers help pupils develop confidence and resilience and discuss what to do if things go wrong. They are approachable and show their willingness to help pupils at all times.

British Values

At Christ Church C of E Primary School we promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

This includes:

- paired and group work as sharing and working together
- making choices with an understanding that the freedom to choose and have other views is respected and tolerated
- debating social issues with an understanding of how people can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- an appreciation that school rules protect individual children and is essential for their wellbeing and safety
- an acceptance that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) are accepted and tolerated without discrimination through school council elections, persuasive writing, and by promoting our Christian school values and Fruits of the spirit as guidelines for behaviour choices.

Collective Worship

Every child of God matters

Collective Worship at Christ Church reflects the traditions of the Church of England and develops children's understanding of Anglican traditions and practice.

Collective Worship makes a major contribution to upholding the religious character and Christian distinctiveness of our church school. The importance of worship is central to the life of our school.

The Church of England is (along with many others) a liturgical tradition, and encountering its worship is essential to understanding it and the God in whom we believe. The seasons of the church year rehearse the drama of Jesus Christ in the context of the larger biblical narrative, and they offer a means through which that narrative can be grasped and inhabited. Collective worship in schools, including prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity, provide a vital opportunity for this. (Church of England Vision for Education Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good Autumn 2016)

AIMS

The aim of Collective worship is to:

- enable children and staff to explore and celebrate the differences and diversity found in the variety of forms of worship in the Anglican Christian tradition;
- lead the school community to the 'threshold of worship' in order for them to make an informed choice about their own involvement and to consider their own personal relationship with Jesus Christ;
- seek to deepen and widen the experience of those of 'faith' and encourage those of 'no faith' so that they begin to feel for themselves something of what it means to worship;
- use celebration, silence, stilling, reflection, contemplation, meditation, prayer, song, symbols and imagery as vehicles for worship and spiritual growth;
- provide opportunities for the whole school community to address God directly through Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit through acknowledging his presence, reflecting upon his character and giving Him praise and honour;
- use a vocabulary of worship that encourages the whole school community to attend, participate and lead worship;

- encourage all present to explore their own beliefs and understanding of God within a Christian framework by learning more about the Christian faith and by encountering Christ through worship;
- reflect upon the 'Big Questions' of life in the context of faith by raising awareness and encouraging discussion
- reaffirm, strengthen and practise key Christian values. (e.g. love, peace, compassion, forgiveness, self giving) and celebrate each unique individual member of the school community as made in the image of God;
- nurture and encourage respect and care for God's created world by promoting a positive attitude to environmental issues locally, nationally and globally;
- seek to provide opportunities for spiritual, social and moral development such as awe, wonder, being uplifted, elation, appreciation, gratitude, respect, and reverence;
- develop a sense of community within the school, the locality, (e.g. local church) and foster the sense of being part of a wider community through the celebration of achievements, festivals and special occasions;
- foster a concern for the needs of others.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our collective worship focuses on our identified Christian values: celebration, being thankful, fairness, forgiveness, honesty, love for all, ambition and resilience. Collective worship also includes Fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Our acts of worship are led by the leadership team, staff, children, clergy, visitors, and we attend services at Christ Church, Surbiton Hill and Southwark Cathedral. We welcome governor's attendance at our worship at any time and parents have an opportunity to take part.

Collective worship is planned for 30 minutes each day. The whole school worship together three times a week led by members of the senior leadership team or the clergy. Pupils also have the opportunity to worship in key stages and in the classroom. Children are able to have an active role in leading, participating and evaluating worship (see Appendix 1 for evaluation form).

THEMES AND CONTENT

Collective worship themes are planned carefully to reflect the church year, Bible teaching, the school year, celebrations and festivals of faith.

An example of the whole school annual Collective Worship calendar:

Example calendar		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Liturgical calendar	THEME	CLERGY 9.00-9.30	SLT 1.30 – 2.00	WHOLE SCHOOL 1.30 - 2.00	KEY STAGE GOLDEN FILE 1.30 - 2.30	Worship/Class Assembly 9.00 – 9.30	
In line with Anglican tradition the liturgical is reflected in the colour of the Worship table cloth and classroom prayer corner colours.	Our weekly theme is carefully considered so teachers can continue with in class worship consolidating key points from our whole school worship.	We are fortunate to have clergy from different local churches such as Christ Church, Emmanuel Church and Insight who deliver regular worship throughout the year	Senior Leadership team whole school worship focussing on our weekly theme in line with school Christian vision, values and our school ethos. Worship includes significant times in the Christian Calendar, news stories and builds in time to reflect on some big questions to deepen spiritual awareness.	A whole school worship focussing on Bible stories using a Story teller Bible to ensure all children have an awareness of the chronological nature of the Bible as well as time to interact and reflect on the teachings of Christ, affirm Christian themes through Saints days and books of the Bible.	A focus on our school value of celebration. Children are nominated by their Teacher to be in the Golden File which celebrates both academic and personal achievement referring to our vision, values and ethos and respecting each other's joy as well as fostering community.	Whole class assemblies which showcase the learning to date during the academic year. Visitors to the school include charities; Kingston Peace Council, <u>Berrylands</u> Nature reserve and our School Council or children's Faith Group.	
Autumn 1 half term school value focus e.g.: Honesty and fairness by a single year group							
September Ordinary time	What does it mean to be British?	Christian Values & British Values	Ephesians 2 v10 British Values	Bible Story The two houses	19 th Key stage celebration KS2 1.30pm KS1 2pm	Singing assembly - <u>building</u> a whole school repertoire and confidence in singing. These assemblies feature hymns, songs and prayer.	
Belonging Big questions to be explored in class this week	EARLY YEARS Welcome Why is welcome important?	YEAR 1 Belonging What does it mean to belong?	YEAR 2 Signs & symbols Are signs & symbols important?	YEAR 3 Promises Why make promises?	YEAR 4 Called What does it mean to be called and chosen?	YEAR 5 Life choices Is commitment important?	YEAR 6 Vocation & commitment

Worship outline

- Greeting
- Psalm or Song of Praise
- Short Bible story-read, enacted, read together etc
- Prayer & Lord's Prayer
- Song
- Grace/Final blessing

The worship theme is illustrated using drama, artefacts, music, pictures, Anglican liturgy, Bible stories, biblical passages and quotations from significant Christian leaders.

There is often an opportunity within worship for reflection or alternatively time in class to reflect on the collective worship of the day.

Resources for worship are considered within the budget allocation process.

CPD AND GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS

The induction process for visitors and new staff includes, DBS clearance (see Safeguarding policy). Visitors to school are welcomed by a member of the Leadership team. Some visitors and staff will have the opportunity to observe worship in our school before being expected to take worship responsibility.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Children evaluate collective worship and this is monitored by the RE subject leader/worship leader/SLT. Findings are shared with the Faith Group as part of the monitoring process. Peer observation takes place by the Leadership team and development opportunities are discussed.

INCLUSION

Parents may withdraw their children from acts of worship (see RE policy). Acts of worship as identified in the Education Act 1944 and in subsequent legislation. Christ Church is a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School where Christian values and principles underpin the whole curriculum and the experience of daily worship by the whole school community is an important part of school life. In order to preserve the distinctiveness of this church school community, we encourage everyone to be involved in the religious education and collective worship. Parents who have concerns should discuss them with the Head teacher in the first instance and the Chair of Governors before their children are admitted to the school.

Reviewed Policy October 2019

May His Spirit bless us and show us how to use and apply this wisdom to lead the children entrusted to our care in worship through Jesus Christ our Lord, who said "whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me" (Matthew 18:5)

Appendix 1



Christ Church
Church of England Primary School

Being Thankful, Celebration, Fairness, Forgiveness, Honesty, Love for All

Lift up 
your
Hearts
in
Praise!

Evaluating Our Worship

Date:	Our Worship was led by:
The candle colour was: The cloth colour was:	The time in the Christian Calendar was: Our theme was:
The Bible verse that our Worship related to was:	Our Worship today was special because:
How I felt about the Worship today:	What we learnt about the Christian Faith:
The role of the children who took part was:	Our Worship has challenged me to think about:
What I will remember most from the Worship today:	Today's Worship will help me in my everyday life because:
The songs of praise were:	This evaluation was completed by:
If I could change anything about today's Worship it would be:	

