

Bishop Lonsdale Church of England Primary School and Nursery



Collective Worship Policy

1. Rationale

All pupils at Bishop Lonsdale Church of England Primary School and Nursery are required to take part in daily Collective Worship where they are given the opportunity to explore their own beliefs and consider spiritual and moral issues.

At Bishop Lonsdale School we believe that children are able to develop confidently in a safe and secure environment nurtured by the beliefs and teachings of the Christian faith. We meet together daily as a community to reinforce community values and to worship together, encouraging children to develop a positive learning and caring attitude towards each other.

Worship draws attention to the Anglican and Christian tradition of the school. We feel that it is important for the children to gain experience of this tradition through prayers, simple liturgy and hymns.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to statutory legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998

This policy also has due regard to guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (1994) 'Religious Education and Collective Worship'

2. Subject Aims

- To adhere to the legal requirements for worship in a voluntary aided Church of England school.
- Enable pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues, as well as explore their own beliefs.
- Encourage participation and response via active involvement or through listening and participating in the worship offered.
- Help pupils to develop an awareness of their community and the spirit of helping others.
- Develop a spirit of community and an understanding of individuals with other beliefs.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each individual's life stance, whether religious or not.
- Promote a common ethos and shared Christian values.
- Provide a peaceful environment to enable stillness, prayer and reflection.
- To open channels of communication with each other and God.
- To give the children the opportunity to explore, experience and encounter different aspects of the Anglican and Christian traditions.

This policy will be implemented alongside the following school policies:

- RE Policy
- Guest Speaker Policy

3. Equal opportunities

Parents have a legal right for their children to be withdrawn from worship. The Headteacher is available for consultation on this matter. Parents are informed of this right in the school prospectus. However, when they apply for a place for their child, they are informed that Christianity is central to the ethos of our school.

The pupils are not withdrawn from worship for extra or additional support.

4. Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Policy of the school is adopted in Collective Worship and it is the responsibility of all staff to ensure in an emergency that the children are evacuated calmly and safely from the hall.

When attending Church, a risk assessment has been written and it is the responsibility of the SLT and teaching staff to ensure that we have the correct adult child ratio for each class.

5. Nature of Learning

Planning and Consultation

A three-year long-term plan is followed. Each half term a different Christian value relating to the children's lives and those of others is covered.

Themes are planned in accordance with the Anglican yearly cycle. Appropriate material may be included from current topics and themes within the school curriculum.

We aim to be flexible in our planning so that we can respond to changing situations both internal and external.

The school may invite visitors or guest speakers to speak during or lead a Collective Worship.

Guest speakers will be required to adhere to the school's Guest Speaker Policy during their visit.

Weekly Collective Worship Programme

The school aims to deliver a varied Collective Worship programme to pupils. The current schedule is outlined in the table below:

Day of the week	Delivery of programme
Monday	A whole-school worship assembly is delivered by the Executive Head or Head of School.
Tuesday	Class Worship is related to the Christian Value of the half term or Picture News and themes. Class Worship is led by the class teacher.

Wednesday	Whole-school hymn practice is delivered by class teachers on a rota basis. Prayer and reflection time is included at the end of the hymn practice.
Thursday	A whole School Worship is delivered by class teachers and visitors on a rota basis. The themes for these Worships are related to the Christian Value of the half term and topics.
Friday	A whole-school celebration Worship is delivered by the Executive Headteacher or the head of school.

Included in these Acts of Worship are:

- Opportunities for reflection
- Singing
- Prayers (From the Anglican tradition).
- Class-led worship
- Story-telling, traditional and Bible based
- Drama and mime
- Opportunities for the children to make personal contributions (Prayers)

Time Allocation

Worships are planned for 15-20 minutes each day and 30 minutes when mass is celebrated. Worship at St Luke's Church lasts for approximately 45 minutes.

6. Assessment, Recording and Reporting

Each half term, one class, per week, is responsible for writing the following weeks prayers. The prayers are written in the children's RE books and if written on paper they are placed in the whole school prayer book.

The planning can be found in the Collective Worship Coordinator's file.

Children who attend Worship Club evaluate a selection of Collective Worships each half term.

7. Cross Curricular Links

In Collective Worship, where possible, cross-curricular links are made. There are strong links made between Collective Worship, RE, Music and the PSHE curriculum.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

The Collective Worship Coordinator plans a half-termly programme of Worship themes and distributes these to all teachers. All teaching staff are responsible for leading at least one worship each term.

We regularly welcome parents, governors and the wider community to our Worships in school and at St Luke's Church. Parents are invited to worship via the newsletter, parent hub and the website.

9. Resources

A range of books and resources are available to support Collective Worship.

10. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Collective Worship Coordinator, Executive Headteacher and Head of School in agreement with the governing body.

This policy will be evaluated in accordance with feedback from questionnaires and class discussions.

Any changes made to this policy and the Collective Worship programme will be communicated to all members of staff.

C Bladon

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