



# Kibworth CE Primary School

Let Your Light Shine

Matthew 5:16

## Collective Worship Policy



This policy was approved as follows:

Approver:	Advisory Board	Date:	28 June 2018
Adopted:	Foundation Committee	Date:	[Complete]
DSAT owner:	Head of Safeguarding	Version:	1.0
JCG review date:	N/A	Review frequency:	3 Years
Status:		Next review date:	January 2024

## Document History

Version	Version Date	Author	Summary of Changes
<b>V1.0</b>	January 2021	Rachel Rowe	New policy prepared after review of previous policy New version created



## Our Vision

# Let your light shine

## Matthew 5:16

*We believe, 'there is something potentially wonderful in everyone',  
and therefore our vision is;*

- To provide children with a secure, fun, caring and challenging environment which enables them to reach their full potential.
- To develop our Christian ethos and build upon our values which enable children to learn effectively within our inclusive and supportive environment.
- To build partnerships with parents, carers and our wider community we are committed to providing an inspirational education that nourishes all children's needs.

*So that our children can let their light shine to the world*

### **Rationale for Collective Worship**

Kibworth CE Primary School is committed to providing an excellent education – both academic and social – within a Christian context for all its pupils. School worship is central to the realisation of our school vision, providing vital opportunities for all pupils to share their human experience and to develop their spiritual nature. We strive to be an inclusive church school, and welcome all children, whatever their family faith, if their parents wish an education that is centred on Christian values.

Collective Worship, within a Christian context, plays an important part in the life of our school. It is an oasis in the school day when children meet together with members of staff in a calm and peaceful atmosphere and where all present are given the opportunity to reflect and participate. It is regarded as 'quality' time and represents something special or separate from ordinary school routine. It is the task of Collective Worship to provide a setting in which the integrity of those present is not compromised but in which everyone finds something positive for themselves and understands how they can let their light shine.

### **Promoting our Christian Values**

Our Christian Values are at the centre of the ethos of the school. Collective worship plays a key role in promoting and developing these values.

### **Legal Requirements**

The Trust Deed of the school is unavailable, but the legal requirement in Anglican schools is for worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and will, therefore, be wholly Christian in character.

- The 1988 Education Reform Act states that Collective Worship should be part of a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and society.
- All maintained schools – including church schools – must provide a daily act of Collective Worship for all registered pupils.

### **Right of withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. We expect that withdrawals will only be made following parental discussions with the Headteacher and followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

All teachers, including the Headteacher, have the right to withdraw from the Act of Collective Worship, but the Headteacher remains legally accountable for Collective Worship within the school.

## Aims of Collective Worship

- To provide time set apart from other activities, when children can be aware of God who loves and cares for them.
- To celebrate each unique individual member of the school community made in the image of God.
- To introduce the Christian faith in an attractive and fun way so that children have a positive experience of God.
- To give children the opportunity to ask God for help and thank Him in prayer and to praise and worship Him with songs and dances.
- For children to learn about Jesus and the life He lived so they are encouraged by His example to live lives that please God, for their own and others' well-being and blessing.
- To give expression to, reaffirm, and practise the values of the school community.
- To provide an experience that promotes the social, moral, spiritual and cultural development of pupils.
- To promote personal and shared reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of concern and value to human beings.
- To respect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and the wider community.
- To celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- To work in close partnership with St Wilfrid's Church so that our worship is complimentary.
- To foster a respect for self and engender a concern for the needs of others.
- To provide spaces and opportunities around the school to encourage reflection and personal prayer.

## Guidelines

### Organisation

At Kibworth CE Primary School Collective worship is organised in a variety of formats: school, key stage and class, and is led by staff, visitors and by the pupils themselves.

A daily Act of Collective Worship is held in the school. Acts of Collective worship may form all, or sometimes just part of, an assembly. Assemblies generally last for 20 minutes. The weekly pattern is as follows:

Monday	Whole School Worship	Headteacher
Tuesday	Christian Values/ Open the Book	Class Teachers / St Wilfrids
Wednesday	Whole School Worship	Teaching Staff
Thursday	Songs for Worship	Music Lead
Friday	Key Stage 'Let Your Light Shine' Celebration	Key Stage Leaders

- Our local Church ministers join us for worship on monthly rotation. We also regularly welcome visitors and outside speakers are invited to lead our worship
- Volunteers from the congregation at St Wilfrids deliver regular Open the Book assemblies
- On a monthly rota, year group takes responsibility for organizing worship based on our Christian Values. Parents are encouraged to attend these pupil led acts of worship on rotation.
- The school worships at our Church, St Wilfrids on various occasions throughout the school year. Each key stage has the opportunity to celebrate Key Christian festivals through worship in Church.

## Planning

Collective Worship follows termly themes which are linked to the Diocese of Rochester schemes and are supplemented with 'Roots and Fruits' to develop our understanding of our Christian values. These broad themes are broken down into more specific weekly themes, most of which have a specifically Christian focus. The major

Christian festivals (Easter, Christmas, Pentecost, Harvest) are at the core of the planning cycle.

A theme is introduced at the beginning of its cycle to the whole school, and then developed throughout the week. The aim is to give children a greater depth of understanding as the theme develops. There is an assembly planner which highlights the key theme for the week and the main teaching points. Where possible songs are linked to the theme.

### **Elements of Worship**

When planning for worship, we think about the four main elements:

#### **Gathering**

*Is the room 'ready for worship?' Does everyone know what they should be doing? Is there a greeting which made everyone feel welcome? Does this reflect Anglican liturgy?*

#### **Engaging**

*How was God's message shared? What strategies will be used? Will they engage all pupils? Is the message distinctively Christian?*

#### **Responding**

*Is singing or prayer or reflection time used? Is there a practical response and how is this encouraged? Is there enough time for responding? How can we encourage pupils to respond appropriately?*

#### **Sending**

*How will people leave worship – singing? silently? Are there special words of blessing or dismissal (eg Anglican liturgy)?*

#### **Atmosphere -**

is all-important in creating the right foundation for Collective Worship. Quiet, orderly behaviour and respectful attitudes on entering, leaving and throughout the assembly are expected. Staff enhance the atmosphere by their presence and participation. A covered table with flowers /a cross /a bible and a candle help to set the scene.

#### **Music -**

is played at the beginning and end of the assembly. Pieces are selected each week appropriate to the theme. Pupils' attention is drawn to it each day and a simple explanation/ description may be given in the Hymn Practice.

#### **Stories and talks -**

are carefully chosen to fulfill the objectives of Collective Worship. Stories of a religious or secular nature may be used whilst personal anecdote from pupils, teachers and visitors is effective in expressing that which is important in our own lives. Particular emphasis is laid upon helping children to understand themselves better, to develop empathy and to face up to moral issues.

#### **Songs -**

are chosen from a wide variety of traditional and modern hymns and choruses. One is used at each assembly, relative to the theme and there is sometimes percussion accompaniment provided by the children. Some are learned by heart and actions are incorporated, whilst others are displayed on the overhead projector. Hymns and songs create the opportunity for children to express thoughts and feelings that are difficult to put into words; and they provide a real source of pleasure.

#### **Prayer and reflection -**

are the most personal part of an act of worship. Collective Worship in school should provide opportunities for children to be taken to the threshold of prayer, and to cross it if they wish, in a way that respects the integrity of all present. Participation in prayer can never be imposed but we stress the need for stillness, reflection and respect for others. Silence, written prayers, impromptu prayers, The Lord's Prayer, children's prayers and the school prayer may be used. A large candle is lit and provides

a focus for pupils' thoughts. Reflection and thinking time are given some direction by the leader in order to concentrate pupils' response.

#### **Scripture -**

sentences may be quoted from the Bible and, where appropriate, from sacred books and writings of other world faiths. Longer passages may be used as readings.

**Presentation** --sets the tone within the act of worship. In keeping with the reverent atmosphere, use is also made of visual aids, artefacts, drama, demonstration and video.

#### **Commitment to Inclusion and Equality**

As a Church school we aim to create inclusiveness. All children have equal access to Collective Worship regardless of race, age, gender or ability, including physical. Where necessary, activities will be adapted to meet individual needs. This is particularly the case in class assemblies. We encourage all members of the school community to participate.

#### **Opportunities for Spiritual, Social, Moral and Cultural Development**

Collective Worship plays an important role in the promotion of all of these areas. The cycle of themes is linked to the SEAL programme of themes, which has been adapted to make sure our own themes and priorities retain a high profile. We develop understanding of our Christian values throughout our Collective Worship planning, highlighting the nature and importance of these core values.

#### **Citizenship and British Values**

An important aspect running through our Collective Worship themes is how to be a good citizen and develop children's understanding of British Values. As part of the Tolerance of others British Value, children are given opportunities to serve the local community; groups sing in a local Care Home as well as taking part in the village events. Through these strong links in the community, we are able to invite the fire service and police into school. We also support several local, national, and international charities. People returning from missionary trips abroad come and speak to the children to inform and inspire them. To include the value of Mutual respect children are taught to respect that people are different and have different beliefs and ideas. Through our support of national charities, learning about wellbeing and special educational needs such as Autism which is covered in Worship children are given the knowledge to understand. We also promote school rules, have a high expectation of behaviour and have Christian values. These are consistently covered in Worship and daily in class which is also a British Value- Respect. To introduce children to the idea of the British Value Democracy we have a school council that children vote in. Current affairs are also covered in class and in Worship. Finally, it is of high importance that children feel valued and are encouraged to share views, ideas and feelings – which covers the British value of Individual Liberty. Children are taught to be the best they can be and successes big or small are celebrated. This is evident through weekly celebration assemblies and through praise from teachers and peers.

#### **How are parents informed about Collective Worship?**

The Collective Worship policy is displayed on the school website. Worship Themes are also featured in the School newsletter and on the website.

#### **Evaluation and Development**

The Foundation Governors are responsible for evaluating this policy. Collective Worship is a standing item on every agenda. Worship evaluation is coordinated by the Collective Worship lead – evaluations are completed by pupils, staff governors and parents. Our Vision Crew (made up with children from Year 5 and 6) are responsible for evaluating worship and help in the planning regularly.

Specific development in this area forms part of the School Improvement Plan as appropriate. The Collective Worship Leader maintains their own action plan.

#### **Training and Support**

The Head teacher and Collective Worship Lead have both received training in developing Collective Worship. Training is

disseminated to staff through Inset and Staff Meetings. Further support is available from the subject leader, the vicar, and the Diocesan Board of Education.