

Policy: Collective Worship Policy
SACC approval: June 2026
Ratified FGB: July 2026
Review: July 2029

Holy Trinity Church of England (VA) Primary School



Believe • Achieve • Inspire •

Collective Worship Policy

SCHOOL VISION

Our vision is for our pupils to flourish in an inclusive, inspirational place of learning where we are happy, respectful, kind and safe.

At Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School our Christian vision shapes all we do.

*"I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live."
Ecclesiastes 3:12.*

- we facilitate opportunities so every child can flourish in a place where they feel **safe, happy and confident**.
- staff **well-being** and professional development is valued and supported in order to fulfil their roles, **inspire** others and experience personal **fulfilment**.
- the school provides facilities that enables our pupils to reach their potential in an **optimum learning environment**.
- the **school plays a central role within our community** and enjoys strong **links with the church, local companies and other schools**.
- we create a culture of vigilance to **safeguard** all children.

*'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.'
Ecclesiastes 3:12*

Introduction

This document is a statement of the vision, aims, principles and strategies for Collective Worship at Holy Trinity CE Primary School. It was developed through a process of consultation with teaching staff, Governors and the Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Sunningdale.

Collective Worship

Collective Worship in a Church school should enable “every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness.” John 10:10.

By law (Education Act 1996 Section 385) in a church school, Collective Worship must:

- be provided daily for all registered pupils;
- reflect the school's Trust Deed

Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that Collective Worship will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their background and beliefs. It helps educate for wisdom, knowledge, hope, dignity and respect, developing community and understanding of living well together. It is invitational, inclusive and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory.

Worship is central to the life of our school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. We define worship as coming together to have focussed attention on God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit through prayer, praise, stillness, worship and reflection in order to facilitate a response of awe, wonder and enquiry.

At Holy Trinity CE Primary School, collective worship is

- 1) inclusive and contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and adults
- 2) Invitational and respects the dignity of all participants
- 3) Inspiring and combines a range of experiences

INCLUSIVE

Our understanding of Christianity is that it is an inclusive faith which mirrors the attitude of Christ in the gospels. We welcome children and staff of all faiths and worldviews to our worship. Through their Christian character our acts of Collective Worship will:

- Recognise and celebrate the diversity of cultures, lifestyles, faiths and worldviews which exist in our school and local community;
- Have an atmosphere in which everyone feels valued and safe;
- Be appropriate for everyone to attend;
- Offer opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world;
- Consider our responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service;
- Foster active roles of pupils as Spiritual Leaders, parents and members of the local community, in preparation, participation and leadership.

INVITATIONAL

Acts of Collective Worship will:

- Nurture and maintain the dignity of the image of God in everyone through working for social justice and encouraging pupils to consider the needs of others through charitable service and courageous advocacy;
- Nurture reflection, stillness, mediation and prayer through our Space Makers Resource;
- Provide pupils with opportunities to explore the spiritual dimension of their lives through music, images and words;
- Provide a sense of occasion that is separate from the rest of the school day;
- Foster an appreciation of the natural world and our shared responsibilities for maintaining it;

***'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.'** Ecclesiastes 3:12*

- Develop clear partnerships between worship in the school and the wider community (e.g Christmas Tree Light switch on, choir performing at Lynwood House residential care home, Summer and Christmas Fayres, Windsor Flower Wheelbarrow competition, Child Action Lanka);

INSPIRING

Our acts of Collective Worship provide wider opportunities to:

- Promote wide ownership of our Christian vision;
- Assist learners to have increased awareness and to reflect upon fundamental issues about life;
- Enhance, complement and extend curricular work;
- Develop learners' understanding of the Christian faith and Church (Anglican) practice through appropriate Biblical and liturgical content;
- Encounter and explore Jesus' teachings and the trinitarian nature of Christian faith;
- Identify opportunities for Christian celebration which can be associated with other school events;
- Support the community to respond to celebrations and challenges;
- Support the community to seek ways of working together for the good of all;
- Include opportunities to celebrate the academic, social, personal and wider achievements of pupils.

The Purpose of our Collective Worship

At Holy Trinity CE Primary School, acts of Collective Worship aim to:

- Be a pivotal safe place in the life of the school;
- Support pupils and adults in their spiritual growth;
- Be the central platform by which the schools' vision is explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teaching of Jesus and the Bible. Sharing a sense of shared values, identity, perception and purpose;
- Provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to observe and/or respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity;
- Support pupils in the development of their understanding of the Trinity (God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit);
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection – a special time to gather, to be still, to reflect in an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity; a time to refresh the spirit;
- Help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year;
- Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using foci and introduce them to some well know Christian prayers as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving (lunch, home time);
- Offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of our community;
- Spiritual Leaders to be at the centre of this process and taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading worship;
- Ensure that themes and materials are carefully selected to make sure pupils understand the work of Christians and the church locally, nationally and globally and how this reflects the teaching of the Bible and the example of Jesus.

Practices and Strategies

Holy Trinity CE Primary School adopts the following;

'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.' Ecclesiastes 3:12

- An act of Collective Worship will take place daily at 10:15am in a variety of groupings for 15 minutes (Whole School, Key Stage, Class) and is in accordance with the tenets and practices of the Church of England being distinctly Christian reflecting Anglican traditions.
- Daily collective worship is led by the Headteacher, Staff, Spiritual leaders, pupils, whole class, local church Reverend or visitors.
- Worship reflects the Liturgical Calendar of the Church Year.
- Collective Worship planning is focused on our vision and school values. Explicit links are made between Bible stories and the Christian values of the school and last for a half term. The values are chosen through liaison with the Headteacher, RE subject leader, staff, pupils and local church community. (Appendix 1)
- Children will be encouraged to enter and exit the hall in an orderly, calm and quiet manner and sit in year groups in rows. Once Foundation Stage are settled into school life, they will attend and participate in whole school Collective Worship with their Year 6 buddies.
- Music may be played for entering and leaving.
- The Trinity Candle will be lit to signify the presence and reminder that God is with us.
- Collective Worship will open and close with a call and response led by the Spiritual Leaders.
- The hall will display a table centre piece with Christian artefacts and cloth reflecting the cycle of the Church Year.
- Children are sat in year groups in rows.
- Pupils will be invited to plan, lead and join in worship.
- A hymn or song will be sung that links to the theme or value.
- There will be reference or a reading from the Bible.
- Pupils, visitors and/or staff will lead in prayer.
- A range and variety of materials and resources are used for visual stimulation eg: stories, poems, artefacts, discussion, remembering etc.
- On occasions, acts of Collective Worship will centre on 'one-off' issues. These will be planned into the long-term programme for Collective Worship as far as possible. There is, however, the need for flexibility to respond to the unexpected where appropriate.
- Spiritual growth is nurtured through our Space Maker Programme offering opportunities for prayer, stillness and reflection. The open invitation to use the spiritual garden is encouraged.

Staff development and training

Termly planning is provided by the RE Subject Leader and is shared with the school community.

Time is dedicated at staff meetings to discuss the value and receive appropriate training and opportunities for professional development.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Governing Board are aware of their legal responsibilities in regard to Collective Worship and take account of the legal requirements, Trust Deed and guidelines issued by the Diocese.

A cycle of evaluating the impact of worship is embedded into the school's monitoring cycle. This is achieved through Pupil voice, Living The Vision Certificates, Foundation Governor Monitoring, Clergy visits, Headteacher, RE Leader monitoring. Feedback from serving our local, national and global communities (e.g: Christmas Tree light switch-on, Choir performing at Lynwood Residential Care Home, Summer and Christmas Fayres, Windsor Flower Show Wheelbarrow Competition Fundraising/Charitable opportunities Holy Trinity Foodbank hub, Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service to supporting the schools in the Child Action Lanka Trust). The impact of monitoring and evaluating of worship leads to its strengthening and development over time and ever present in our journey of faith and working for social justice.

Withdrawal from Acts of Collective Worship

'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.' Ecclesiastes 3:12

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship on Religious Grounds. Requests for withdrawal are granted without delay. The Religious grounds do not need to be justified or explained by the parent. Should children be withdrawn the school will provide adequate supervision to ensure their safety.

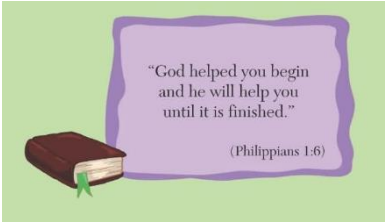
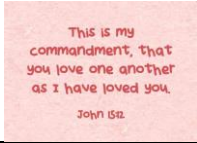
This policy was adopted by Holy Trinity CE Primary School and agreed by the Standards and Curriculum Committee and ratified by the Full Governing Board.

Approved by.....on behalf of the School Governing Board.

Signature:.....

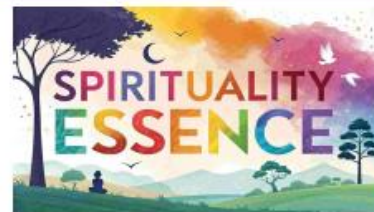
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Appendix 1

Our Mantra	Our Core Christian Values	Our Termly Christian Values	Holy Trinity Rules
Believe	Forgiveness 	Friendship  Truthfulness 	 Be Respectful
Achieve	Perseverance 	Wisdom  Compassion 	 Be Responsible
Inspire	Respect 	Justice Be <i>humble</i> and <i>gentle</i> in every way. Be <i>patient</i> with each other and <i>lovingly</i> accept each other. Ephesians 4:2 Responsibility 	 Be Kind  Be Safe

Appendix 2

'I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.' Ecclesiastes 3:12



What is Spirituality?

'We believe spirituality is a feeling of wonder or wow that brings you happiness, joy or peace.

This feeling connects us to something bigger than ourselves.'



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