

Policy: Collective Worship Policy
SACC approval: June 2023
Ratified FGB: July 2023
Review: July 2026

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. It helps educate for wisdom, knowledge, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, developing community and understanding of living well together.

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 inspirational, invitational and inclusive where we can witness worship and join in, if we wish
- offers a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story
- offers opportunities through being invited to participate in prayer, reading, reflection on the Bible and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity
- offers opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world
- consider our responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service
- is celebrated, both for accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian and other faiths calendar.
- is inclusive and respects individual integrity
- invites pupils to contemplate and develop spiritually
- provides the opportunity for staff and pupils to share in the development of the whole school ethos and supports the promotion of Christian values.
- is an integral part of the religious, spiritual, social, moral and cultural aspects of the curriculum

Guiding Principles

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

- Have a pivotal 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 known 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.

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- 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;

- 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 Head, Staff, Spiritual leaders, pupils, whole class, local church Reverend or visitors.
- Worship reflects the cycle 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 Head, 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 sat 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 through prayer, stillness and reflection is nurtured and the open invitation to use the spiritual garden is encouraged.

Staff development and training

A termly planning is provided by the RE Subject Leader for each term 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

A cycle of evaluating the impact of worship is embedded into the school's monitoring cycle. This is achieved through Pupil voice, Foundation Governor, clergy visits, Head, RE Leader monitoring and feedback from serving our local community (e.g: Christmas Tree light switch-on, Choir performing at Dorney

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House, Summer and Christmas Fayres, Windsor Flower Wheelbarrow to Dormey House, Fundraising/Charitable opportunities). The impact of monitoring and evaluating of worship leads to its strengthening and development over time and ever present in our journey of faith.

Withdrawal from Acts of Collective Worship

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship.

Children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship at their parent's request will be accommodated in a suitable place with supervision. The class teachers and / or Headteacher will discuss the matter sensitively with any parent who wishes to exercise their right to withdraw their child to ascertain when they may be included.

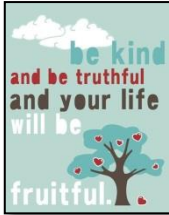
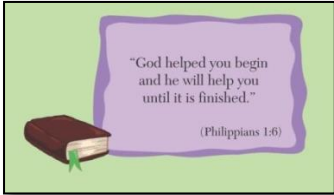
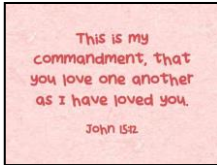
This policy was adopted by Holy Trinity CE Primary School and agreed by the Standards and Curriculum Committee and ratified by the Full Governing Board.

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

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Appendix 1

Our Mantra	Our Core Christian Values	Our Termly Christian Values	Our Golden Rules for Behaviour (linked to all our values)
Believe	Forgiveness 	Friendship  Truthfulness 	We are kind and helpful
Achieve	Perseverance 	Wisdom  Compassion 	We work hard
Inspire	Respect 	Justice  Responsibility 	We are gentle
			We look after property

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