



Kislingbury CEVC Primary School Collective Worship Policy

Policy Review Committee	Pupils and Personnel Committee
Policy Last Reviewed	June 2016
Policy Review Schedule	Annual
Policy Review Date	Summer 2017



Aims and objectives

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for children and adults to worship God;
- to recount the Christian story and our responses;
- to remind ourselves that we are part of the wider Christian family and we gain strength and learning from one another;
- to enable children and adults to consider spiritual and moral issues within a Christian context;
- to enable children and adults to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children and adults a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common Christian ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to recognise that the deepest longings of meaning, purpose, acceptance, forgiveness, freedom, celebration and hope can be shared and met;
- to teach children and adults how to worship.
- to develop a knowledge and understanding of the Christian calendar.

Collective worship

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. It is at the centre of our school life and integral to all that we do as a school. Collective worship involves all members of the school family coming together and participating in an act of worship. We expect everyone to take an active part in the worships during the week.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school family.

While all the acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that may be represented in the school family and the wider community. These form part of Religious Education teaching and are not acts of Worship.

Organization of collective worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school hall. The whole school gathers four times a week and Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1; and Key Stage 2 meet separately once a week in the hall or in their classes.

We conduct the time of collective worship in a dignified and respectful way and all present are expected to contribute to the atmosphere of quiet and stillness. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way entering and leaving in silence. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and songs. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.



The Headteacher or other members of staff take collective worship and we are enriched by the contribution made by clergy from both the Church of England and visitors drawn from the Christian family who lead worship on a regular basis.

The pattern for the week is:

Day	Group	Leader
Monday	Whole school	Headteacher
Tuesday	Whole School	Christian Visitor
Wednesday	Key Stage	Staff Member
Thursday	Whole School	Music Lead teacher
Friday	Whole school	Achievement – SLT/Staff

We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and we reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. An overall theme is set each term linked to one of twelve Christian Values. Themes are also taken from the PSHE SEAL scheme of work. Sometimes the themes also reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum or elements of British Values.

Each term one Worship is led by a class and is on the theme of that term's Christian Value. Parents and carers are invited to attend and awards are presented for children who have shown strong examples of that term's value from each class. Also one worship each term is led by a group of pupils from Key Stage Two

The school celebrates the festivals of the Christian calendar in specific services through the year; Harvest, Advent, The Nativity, Easter and Pentecost. We also hold services to mark an event in the life of the school e.g. Leavers Service. All these services are led by our children and drama, music, readings, art etc are incorporated. Where practical these are held at St. Lukes Church in the village.

Our worship reflects the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to take part by participating in drama, reading, leading prayer etc. Each Friday there is an Achievement Service when there is an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and to which parents and carers are invited. This plays an important part in promoting the Christian ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued because they have been created by God and all achievements are recognised. Kislingbury CEVC Primary School is a successful school and we celebrate the successes of all.

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.



Monitoring and review

It is the role of the Section 48 Committee of school governors to have responsibility for religious education and collective worship to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. The governors concerned liaises with the headteacher before reporting to the governors on religious education and collective worship. Monitoring observations will also be undertaken by staff, pupils and parents and carers who will feed back to the Section 48 committee.

This policy will be monitored by the governing body and will be reviewed every year, or earlier if deemed necessary.