

Skidby CE VE Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our vision and associated values of being a **Christian school in a small community, making a big difference**; showing **respect**, taking **responsibility** and developing **resilience** in all we do (*1 Thessalonians 5:11 tells us; Encourage one another and build one another up.*) Celebrating the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our vision and values and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Therefore, Collective Worship at Skidby CE VC Primary School is planned to

- to be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- will regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the school's core Christian values
- will have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity
- will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- will challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection Stillness
- will contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to"
- will be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Collective worship should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and handbook.

Parents contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school prospectus.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

As stated in the school single equality policy, collective worship is carried out to reflect our Christian vision and values as a church school, however all worship is of an invitational manner and welcomes those from all backgrounds with many of the values discussed being not only Christian in nature but of a broadly humanitarian nature for all to access.

Planning Collective Worship

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by reciting the Lord's prayer.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation. The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through pupil voice discussions. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship.

Graham Hill, reverend Tim, Jo Markham and Kate Makepeace of the school's governors has a role monitoring Collective worship through membership of the ethos committee at the school.

There are a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning. The majority of collective worship planning is built around Roots and Fruits and Roots and Fruits 2 by Imaginor to best support the planning of effective collective worship with online resources found at www.imaginer.co.uk

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Mr S Richardson

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Whole School Worship is held 4 times a week. These are taken by the school teachers, headteacher and visitors with the support of the children.

Class / Key Stage worship is held once a week. These are taken by class teachers with the support of the children.

Visitors include the open the book group who lead worship once every other week on a Thursday and reverend Tim who leads collective worship once every other Monday.

Acts of worship generally follow themes that are linked to the school's vision and values and include the pattern of the church's year.

Visitors

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Staff and Community Involvement in Collective Worship

Collective worship is led by the Headteacher and is supported by all other staff members, particularly through class worship on a Wednesday. Community partners both open the book and Reverend Tim also lead collective worships on a rotational basis.

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| <p>Monday - Reverend Tim (Launch the theme for the week and the big question for reflection in classes)</p> | <p>Tuesday - Mr Richardson Follow on with the theme for the week.</p> | <p>Wednesday Class teachers Class worship.</p> | <p>Thursday - Open The Book Or Worship and praise</p> | <p>Friday - Mr Richardson (Celebration Worship)</p> | <p>Big Question (key point for reflection to be taken into reflection areas in class)</p> |
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Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship, is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors.

All who deliver worship will be observed on a termly basis. This process supports the school's self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body.

Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in weekly class worship, pupil voice discussions and through the school council.

All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop. We also welcome the contributions of parents and pupils which are reviewed and considered on a regular basis. These are shared with our ethos committee and play an integral part in developing the spiritual growth of the school. Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York (SIAMS).

Policy agreed by Board of Governors