



Stanton Harcourt
CE Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

This policy was agreed by the governing body on:

Date.....September 2022.....

To be reviewed.....September 2024.....

Chair of Governing Body.....

Headteacher.....

Collective Worship at Stanton Harcourt CE Primary School



Our vision:

Our inclusive church school aims to fulfil the potential of all;

Living, Learning and Growing Together.

We aspire to be excellent learners and leaders, empowered through our partnerships with all. Together we are parts of a body and each person's gifts, skills and qualities are cherished, enabling the whole body to flourish.

As St Paul the apostle advises in Romans 12:4, 'Each one of us has a body, and that body has many parts ... In Christ we are all one body and we are all a part of it. Each part belongs to all the other parts. We all have different gifts.'

Partnerships and community are at the heart of our school. We created our vision to reflect that we are a small, rural school – living, learning and growing together.

Aims and Purpose of Collective Worship

Collective worship gives pupils and school staff a daily opportunity to:

- engage in an act of community
- express praise and thanksgiving to God
- be still and reflect
- explore the big questions of life and respond to national events
- foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness
- reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Christ
- affirm Christian values and attitudes
- share each other's joys and challenges
- celebrate special times in the Christian calendar.

It is intended to:

- enable all children to appreciate their worth and value to God and to the community
- support the children's spiritual, personal, moral and social development through giving opportunities for prayer and reflection
- take time for moments of forgiveness and thankfulness
- provide memorable and enjoyable experiences of worship.

Programme

Each day of the week, Collective Worship has a distinctive character while still following the same structure (outlined below). On Monday, we focus on significant events and individuals; on Tuesday we focus on Bible stories and Christian festivals; on Wednesday, Collective Worship comprises a class-based time of reflection (a 'Wednesday Moment'); on Thursday we focus on enjoying expressing

ourselves musically in Songs of Praise; and on Friday, we focus on celebrating the children's achievements.

As well as our formal Collective Worship, each class pauses before lunch and at the end of the day to reflect and give thanks; on Wednesday this is in addition to the Wednesday Moment.

Our usual Collective Worship timetable is:

Day and time		Taken by	Theme
Monday 10.10am	Whole school	Teachers	Significant events/individuals
Tuesday 10:10am	Whole School	Local Clergy/Teachers	Bible stories/ Christian festivals
Wednesday Time varies by class	Each class individually	Class teachers	Wednesday Moment
Thursday 10.10am	Whole school	Ginny Bayliss/ Faye Tingley	Songs of Praise
Friday 10:10am	Whole school	Faye Tingley	Celebration of achievements

Planning

At the start of each term, the Head of School and Collective Worship co-ordinator liaise to draw up the content for the term. The programme for Tuesday's Collective Worship is developed in partnership with local clergy and Foundation Governors.

Structure

Collective Worship takes place as a whole school in the hall except on a Wednesday. In addition, once a month we go to St Michael's church for Collective Worship.

The Collective Worship coordinator works with a group of pupils who have volunteered to be part of the Worship Group, generally six pupils, one from each Year 1-6. The groups changes every long term. The Worship Group is actively involved in leading aspects of Collective Worship.

Collective Worship usually follows the following format:

Entrance: Children come into the hall to thought-provoking and awe-inspiring images on the screen and/or music playing. This can express a variety of moods ranging from energetic joy to contemplative tranquillity.

Welcome: Greeting and lighting of the candle is led by the Worship Group using the following liturgy:

Peace be with you

And also with you.

'God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit' (as the three-part candle is lit).

Message/ input: This is led by the staff or clergy member responsible and relates to the agreed theme.

Christian song/hymn: Songs and hymns are selected to link with the theme and reflect a range of styles and age. The intention is for each child to develop a bank of songs and hymns that they know well to aid them in expressing themselves to God.

Sending out: The pupil Worship Group or adult leading Collective Worship leads a concluding prayer and music is played as children leave.

Worship Group

The Worship Group is an integral part of Collective Worship at Stanton Harcourt school. Made up of children from across the year groups who volunteer to serve on the group for a term, the aims of having the Worship Group are:

- to help with the running of Collective Worship
- to model engagement with Collective Worship
- to model leadership
- to help make Collective Worship more fun e.g. leading new songs and teaching actions
- to be the pupil voice and contribute ideas to help make Collective Worship as engaging as possible.

Collective Worship and the law

Arrangements for Collective Worship in a church school are the responsibility of the governors in consultation with the head teacher. Foundation Governors have particular responsibility for seeing, so far as is practicable, that the ethos of the school is reflected in worship. The act of worship is not included in curriculum time and must be distinctive to meet legal requirements.

There are legal requirements for Collective Worship, which include:

Collective Worship in a Church of England School should be in accordance with the trust deed or Diocesan guidelines. These include the tenets and practices of the Church of England. In other words in a church school, it should be clearly Christian.

The school must provide an act of Collective Worship for all children every day. Daily Collective Worship must be provided for all registered school pupils on a daily basis, (unless they have been withdrawn by parental request). Therefore, this applies from Reception. It also means that it is illegal to withdraw any pupils from Collective Worship on any other grounds (for example support groups, music lessons, booster classes, etc).

The act of Collective Worship can take place at any time of the school day and in any regular school grouping e.g. whole school, key stage or class unit.

The right to withdraw

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Parents considering this are invited to discuss the matter with the head teacher. Teachers may withdraw from Collective Worship although they may be asked to attend for secular matters.

Policy review

This policy was agreed in September 2022

This policy will be reviewed in September 2024