

Colliers Green Church of England Primary School



Collective Worship Policy 2018

This document sets out the Collective Worship Policy for Colliers Green Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Primary School. This plan set out how we will operate within relevant legal and statutory frameworks and with reference to our core values of Aspiration, Resilience and Community.

Approval:

On behalf of the School:

On behalf of the Governing
Body:

Date:

Date:

Nicola Hirst
Headteacher

John Speller
Chair of Governors

Review date:

May 2020

Board of Education

Serving children, schools and young people

Collective Worship Policy

Colliers Green VA C of E Primary School

Our vision for all the children who attend Colliers Green Church of England Primary School is that they develop as:

Successful learners, Confident individuals, Responsible citizens, Effective contributors

The Christian values underpinning our school practice are:

Aspiration, Resilience, Community

“To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God and to develop the will to the purpose of God.”

William Temple (1881-1894)

Psalm 100: 1-5

1 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

² Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.

³ Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his^a;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Introduction

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our values of Aspiration, Resilience and Community and celebrates the central role that each child 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 ethos 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.

Aims

Collective worship at Colliers Green VA C of E Primary School will support the school's distinctive vision and Mission Statement, by providing opportunities for members of the school community:

- to consider spiritual and moral issues and, through reflection, raise awareness of the ultimate questions of life
- to reflect on their own beliefs
- to develop an enquiring mind and express and explore their own views openly and honestly
- to encounter God in Jesus Christ
- to reflect in ways that are of a broadly Anglican Christian tradition, whilst recognising the validity and importance of other Christian denominations, religions, belief systems and other world views.
- to nurture a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- to foster an awareness of the world around them and a sense of their place within it
- to take responsibility for their own conduct, charitable giving, and social actions so that they might contribute positively to a multi-diverse society
- to develop a sense of sharing and belonging through different groups of students coming together
- to experience silence in a busy world
- to encourage inquisitive engagement with, and reflection on, the teachings of the Holy Bible

The Anglican Christian Tradition

The following are shared as Christian elements of collective worship:

- Exploring the Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Using the Bible for inspiration, stories and guidance
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Saints Days amongst ordinary days
- Learning and saying prayers from a number of sources, in particular the Lord's Prayer and the blessings in common use
- Singing a wide variety of hymns and songs from traditional to modern
- Experiencing Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection
- Using Psalms with simple responses – Taizé style

We may also use elements which are more distinctively Anglican:

- Using prayers from Common Worship
- Using Anglican sentences and responses at the beginning and end of worship

Implementation

Collective worship is a legal requirement. In accordance with the Education Reform Act 1988, each school must provide a broadly Christian act of collective worship for all pupils every day. This act of 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.

Collective worship is planned by a variety of stakeholders including staff, pupils, the incumbents and lay readers of our local churches and external visitors in consultation with the Collective Worship Leader. Our school plans systematically and cohesively using Canterbury Diocese Collective Worship Planning, which is adapted and changed to meet the needs of our community. This ensures there is a shared understanding of the long and short term planning of worship and enables continuity. Visitors to our school are asked to read and comply with our school visitor and safeguarding policies: (See school website). This includes discussing the content of any worship with a member of the senior leadership in order to ascertain its suitability for the school community. Visitors are never left alone with children as the supervision of pupils remains the responsibility of school staff.

We meet:

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Whole School David Gillies – Lay Reader – St Dunstans @ 3.10pm | Whole School Caroline Turvey – C&F Worker – St Marys @1.30pm or Nicola Hirst | Whole School Nicola Hirst 3.10pm | Whole School Singing and Praise Alternate Thursdays Imogen Barstow/Michael Robertson @ 1.20pm Or Nicola Hirst | Whole school – Celebration worship Nicola Hirst – Headteacher / Josie Hopkins - Deputy @3.10pm |

We are mindful of the variation in personal spiritual styles and provide a range of creative opportunities including music, silence, symbolism, drama and the use of IT.

Our worship consists of four stages:

- *Gather* – we welcome the community with music , liturgy and the lighting of a candle
- *Engage* – we share a bible reading, followed by an activity to engage pupils with the Christian message
- *Respond* -- pupils discuss, share , reflect , pray or sing
- *Send* – we share the message of the worship again and ask pupils to think about how they will affect their day / learning/ behaviour. We close with liturgy, final prayer, music and the blowing out of our special candle.

Expectations of pupils:

- Teachers/ TAs to model behaviour expectations.
- Children to enter and leave the hall silently and calmly.
- Children to sit in rows in their classes, Class 4 children on the benches.

Pupils regularly plan and lead worship on a voluntary basis. They work with the Collect Worship Leader during lunchtime to develop their own understanding of worship and to design a worship to support the spiritual development of their peers. A small group of KS 2 pupils work in a Collective Worship Group with the

Headteacher to plan and deliver Collective Worship and help ensure that the school environment best reflects its Church distinctiveness.

Developing Worship

The school allocates part of its budget to support the daily act of collect worship. The Collective Worship Leader attends regular professional development with Canterbury Diocese and accesses a wide range of resources to ensure that worship is both inspiring and engaging.

Evaluation

Pupils, staff and parents are asked to evaluate Collective Worship to ensure that all stakeholder's viewpoints can be used to further improve our provision. Evaluations are kept by the CW lead.

Inclusion

Acts of worship should include all children and the content should respect the individuality of each child. Acts of worship should always be Christian but they will not be proselytising; instead, respecting the integrity and choices of every person. Prayer will be by invitation and there will be a time for free reflection. When planning thought should be given to SEND children to ensure that all can engage with the stories and sung worship.

Self-assessment and Inspection

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 through questionnaires, which are reviewed and considered on a regular basis. (See Appendix A). We also ask for parents reflections and consider these in our planning and development of our Christian character. These are shared during full governing body meetings 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 Canterbury.

Health, Safety and Well-Being

During Collective Worship, we follow the school's Health and Safety Policy. For example, appropriate care must be taken when lighting candles and using electrical equipment. In line with our Online Safety Policy, all online resources must be checked prior to being used by the worship leader. In the event of fire, all pupils and adults must be familiar with exit routes from the hall. Visitors must not be left unaccompanied with children.

Parental Withdrawal

Worship is regarded as special time which wholly reflects our ethos as a church school. It is an inclusive opportunity for those of all faiths and none and is in no way intended to evangelise or proselytise. We respect the right of parents to withdraw their child/children from acts of collective worship on grounds of conscience. However, as collective worship is central to our ethos. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this decision with parents. (If students are withdrawn from collective worship, they will be supervised by a member of staff and provided with alternative activities).

Date of validation..... Signed.....

Date of review.....
Chair of Governors
Signed.....
Chair of Governors

Appendix A – questionnaires

Parental Questionnaire

Your responses to these questions will help us to judge whether we are distinctive and effective as a Church school. Thank you for your cooperation.

| Questions | Comments |
|---|----------|
| What do you see as the distinctively Christian values of school? | |
| How do you think these values have had an impact on your child/children? | |
| What sort of opportunities does the school provide for the spiritual development of your child/children? | |
| How does the school help your child to develop morally, socially and culturally? | |
| Do you think that the school has high expectations of behaviour and do you think the expectations and relationships within the school reflect the Christian values of the school? | |
| Does your child enjoy Religious Education (RE)? Can you think of any ways in which his/her learning in RE has had an impact on his/her life (thinking, attitudes, behavior etc.)? | |
| Do you know how well your child is progressing in RE? | |
| Do you think that your child/children have a good knowledge and understanding of Christianity? How do you know? | |
| Do you think that your child/children have a good knowledge and understanding of other world faiths? How do you know? | |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Do you think that collective worship is important for the school</p> | |
| <p>What impact does it have on your child/children?</p> | |
| <p>Are you invited to collective worship during the year? Do you enjoy your visits?</p> | |
| <p>How does your child participate in and/or lead during collective worship?</p> | |
| <p>Does your child understand something about the importance of prayer and reflection?</p> | |
| <p>Do you think that the school helps your child to understand what it is to belong to the Anglican Church?</p> | |
| <p>How do the Headteacher, school leaders and governors promote the Christian vision and values of the school?</p> | |
| <p>Are there effective partnerships with the local church and the local community? How do these benefit your child and the wider school community?</p> | |



The Diocese of
Canterbury

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Questions for Pupils.

Dear Pupil

We are going to have an inspection soon. It would help us if you could fill in this questionnaire. Thank you. .

| | A lot | A bit | Not much | Not at all |
|--|-------|-------|----------|------------|
| I know about the Christian values of my school | | | | |
| I learn about what is right and what is wrong in my school | | | | |
| I get on well with the other people in school | | | | |
| I can pray and reflect in school | | | | |
| I enjoy collective worship | | | | |
| I enjoy my RE lessons | | | | |
| I learn about God, Jesus and the Bible in RE | | | | |
| I learn about other world faiths in RE | | | | |
| I know how well I am doing in RE | | | | |
| My views about worship and RE are taken seriously | | | | |
| The school and the church work together | | | | |
| The things I like best about collective worship are | | | | |
| | | | | |
| The things I like best about RE are | | | | |
| | | | | |

