

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY SHILLINGSTONE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL.

All of Shillingstone CE Primary School's policies should be read in conjunction with the Child Protection Policy (including Safeguarding policy) and Procedures.

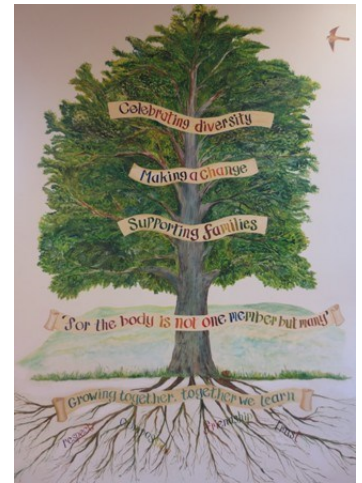
OUR VISION

For the body is not one member but many. 1 Corinthians 12: 14

Growing Together. Together we learn.

Our vision reminds us that the body of Christ, or the people that are the whole of humanity, are a team. The body is not supported by one person, but by all of us. We are one; we are strongest working together in unity. As we all work together we demonstrate our Christian values of respect, compassion, friendship and trust.

Our ambition is to: Celebrate diversity, Make a change, and Support families.



At Shillingstone CE Primary School we consider Collective Worship to be a significant educational activity that both reflects and explores the school's distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and wellbeing of all learners.

Therefore, Collective Worship at this school is planned to:

- To be inspirational and inclusive. It engages all learners and enabling them to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and life in the school.
- regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and exploring and relating this to the school's core Christian values – Friendship, Respect, Trust, Compassion.
- have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity.
- help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey leading to greater understanding of the value of Prayer, Reflection and Stillness.
- 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."
- 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 is an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship at this school include opportunities for:

- The whole community to celebrate;
- Sharing and experiencing differences;
- Developing a culture of learning;
- Building a sense of group identity;
- Encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
- A break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- Learning how to behave in a large social group;
- Exploring feelings and emotions;
- Learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- Learning how to respond to a performance;
- Making visible the school's leadership;
- Developing inner awareness.

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. The School meets this requirement and is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. In an aided school, the staff are expected to attend the act of collective worship. This right was TUPE over into the academy. It is intended that consultation with the parent and Headteacher will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship.

Planning a Collective Worship programme

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:

- ✓ Displaying a key image to support our children, particularly younger children or children with delayed communication skills, in remembering the key messages from Collective Worship.
- ✓ A gathering sentence where children in turn bring articles representing the Holy Trinity to the altar (Bible – God the Father, Cross – God the Son, Candle – God the Holy Spirit).
- ✓ Worship follows the pattern of gathering, engaging, reflecting, responding, stillness, prayer, praise and sending. As the candle is lit there is a gathering prayer, inviting God to be with us ("Come to us Father as we gather here today; Be with us Jesus in our worship; Stay with us Holy Spirit, now and always, Amen.")
- ✓ The worship songs chosen for Collective Worship broaden the children's knowledge of both traditional and modern hymnody.

- ✓ Children are actively engaged through discussion, drama, singing and prayer. Pictures, photographs, music and candles are all used at different times to create stillness and reflection.
- ✓ As the candle is extinguished at the end of worship there is a prayer which links to the vision of our school ("Known by Jesus and loved by Jesus, we go on our way, carrying his love inside us through the day. Amen. For the body is not one member but many. So today we will grow together and learn together.") In every whole school class worship there is a key image that is displayed which is then used within the class worship.
- ✓ Marking church of England traditions including colours of the Christian calendar and events

Leading an act of worship

Each person leading Collective 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 the following structure of planning including:

- Gathering;
- Engaging;
- Reflecting;
- Responding;
- Stillness;
- Prayer;
- Praise.

Planning and Evaluation

Collective Worship is evaluated during Class Worship time when the children reflect on the Whole School Collective Worship and how it has had an impact on their lives. The children record their thoughts and feelings in a class 'floor book.'

Children are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective worship. KS2 classes take it in turns to plan and lead whole school worship.

The Foundation representatives on the Academy Committee review and evaluate collective worship as part of the Christian distinctiveness review.

We use many resources for Collective Worship including Values for Life and Roots and Fruits.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by the Head teacher.

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Mondays: Whole school worship – led by the Headteacher or Teacher. The children explore our core Christian Values and Vision.

Tuesdays: Whole school Church Worship – led by Church clergy and worship leaders.

Wednesday: Class Worship and Collective Worship evaluation. Whole school Collective Worship is followed-up every week in Class Worship. The key image is displayed, the same gathering and sending prayer is used. During Class Worship the children re-visit the story, drama or theme from whole school Collective Worship or alternatively have a follow-up worship. The children have the opportunity to evaluate and reflect on the Collective Worship from the week within the class open 'floor book'.

Thursday: Worship through song - led by school teachers. The whole school comes together to sing and praise God. Songs are chosen to fit with events in the Christian calendar, for example Christmas and Easter and Harvest, as well as national events like Remembrance. Through reflection on the words of hymns and songs children are encouraged to think about different aspects of the Christian faith.

Fridays: Celebration assembly - Headteacher or Teacher led. The school gathers for this assembly, to celebrate the achievements of the children across the school.

Worship in Church

Where possible at the start and end of each term, a service of worship is held in Holy Rood Church at which special events or seasons are recognized: key events being Christmas, Easter and the end of the school year. The whole school, governors, parents, carers and members of the community are invited to attend these different services.

Reviewed: Spring 2024

Next review date: Spring 2026