

Flookburgh CofE Primary School



*Together, we believe, anything is possible*

## Mission Statement

*'Together, we believe, anything is possible'*

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

2022 - 25

Approved by <sup>1</sup>	
Name:	Mrs Rowena Lewis
Position:	Chair of Governors
Signed:	<i>R Lewis</i>
Date:	December 2022
Proposed review date:	December 2025

## Legal Requirement

The requirements of the 1988 Education Act state that:

*“All pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of collective worship unless the parent requests that he/she may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in the school.”*

## Definition of Collective Worship

Collective worship in school must in some sense reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities. It should be concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a being or power regarded as supernatural or divine, and the pupil, at whatever stage in their schooling, should be capable of perceiving this. Although collective worship and assembly may take place together, the distinction between the two should be clear. However, collective worship can be related to the day to day life, aspirations and concerns of the school.

“Taking part” in collective worship implies more than simply passive attendance. The act of worship should be presented in a way in which pupils can respond, even though on a particular occasion some pupils may not feel able to actively identify with the act of worship.

The Education Reform Act 1988 states that:

*“Collective Worship organised by school is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.” It must contain some elements which can be related specifically to the traditions of Christian belief, and which accord special status to the person of Jesus Christ.*

As a Church of England School:

“The daily act of collective worship required by law in the school shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England.”

*The National Society (C of E) for promoting Religious Education*

## Aims of Collective Worship

- To be an affirmation and celebration of the Christian Values, including common human values, and ethos of the school.
- To develop a community spirit by encouraging a sense of unity and identity among pupils and staff.
- To provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To encourage participation and response, by being actively involved in the presentation of worship, or by listening to, watching, and joining in with the worship offered.

- The worship will reflect some of the essential features within the traditions of Anglican worship and prayer, i.e. the Bible, Christian Symbols, the Yearly cycle.

### **School approach to Collective Worship**

- The content of the act of worship will be appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils.
- The act of worship will be led by a member of staff, the vicar of the Anglican Church associated with Flookburgh CE Primary School, St. John the Baptist Church and occasionally by a visiting speaker.
- All acts of worship held in school will be recorded and collated by the Collective Worship Lead.
- The act of worship may be for the whole school, a key stage, or class.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from an act of worship, and supervision will be available during the time of the act of worship.
- Teachers have the right to withdraw from leading or taking part in an act of worship.
- Worship within the school will be planned each term as a whole staff activity, and will be related to the school's Christian Values and pertinent Festivals and Celebrations within the Christian Calendar.
- Hymns, and/ or musical accompaniment, used during an act of worship will be planned to relate to chosen themes, and the pupils will be encouraged to know and learn a selection of hymns.
- Anyone leading an assembly must be aware of the schools aims and approach of collective worship.

### **Organisation, range and style of Collective Worship**

Collective worship is done daily as a whole school between 10.30am and 10.45am, Monday to Wednesday; Thursday Collective Worship shall be held by individual classes.

There will also be a Celebration Assembly each Friday morning between 9.05 – 9.25am, related to the Christian Value focus and Biblical Teachings covered during the week.

Parents/Carers will be invited to attend the Friday Celebration Assembly.

There will be a minimum of 5 minutes 'Reflection Time' for each class immediately after Collective worship to revisit key messages and encourage a deeper understanding.

This time will be included within the Class Teacher's daily planning.

### **Acts of worship may include:**

- Acts of Worship led by staff/visitors/governors
- Acts of worship using the outdoor environment, including outdoor environments beyond the school grounds, as appropriate
- Pupil involvement/pupil leadership/thoughts and prayers written by the children
- Times of celebration
- Opportunities for reflection and quiet
- Storytelling

- Creative and expressive arts
- Sharing of knowledge and information
- The exploration of sacred text and symbol, thoughts, and prayers written by the children

## **Records of Collective Worship**

A sample selection of Acts of Collective Worship, following the Collective Worship Termly Overview, will be kept by the Collective Worship Lead for monitoring purposes.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation is the responsibility of the Collective Worship Lead in school and she shall be done through:

- Monitoring and evaluating Collective Worship planning and delivery
- Planning
- Evidence through children's responses
- Observations of staff and visitors

## **Monitoring and Evaluation – Link Governor Responsibilities**

In addition to the monitoring and evaluation responsibilities undertaken by the Collective Worship Lead, the Link Governor(s) shall also undertake the following:

- Undertake planned monitoring visits which will include attendance at an act of school worship, engaging in Learning Walks, listening to pupil voice, being a critical friend to ensure high quality provision of Christian Worship.
- With the Headteacher, report to governor colleagues on how the Christian ethos of the school is promoted.
- Ensure that all governors are familiar with Collective Worship provision.
- Support the school through collation of a portfolio of evidence which demonstrates the school's distinctive Christian ethos and values.
- Support and promote the involvement of parents in the Christian distinctiveness of the school.
- Attend appropriate Governor Training linked to developing the distinctive Christian Character of the school and thereby support Leadership and Management.