



# Hartington C of E Primary School

**"Caring & sharing as part of God's family"**  
***"Loving our neighbour as we love ourselves" - Luke 10:27***

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## Collective Worship Policy

Hartington C of E Primary School

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Signed by:

\_\_\_\_\_ Head teacher

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of governors

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Review Date: - September 2027

## Vision Statement

### **“Caring & sharing as part of God’s family”**

Providing a school community where we strive to achieve our full potential in a safe, nurturing environment with Christian values at our heart.

### ***“Loving our neighbour as we love ourselves” – Luke 10:27***

The aim of collective worship is: -

- Worship God
- Reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues and act upon these
- Have a chance to lead the worship

### Statutory Duty of School:

All maintained schools provide daily collective worship for registered pupils (apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents). This is usually provided by a daily assembly.

The Headteacher is responsible (under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998) for ensuring the daily collective worship happens after consulting with the governing body. Daily collective worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. The precise nature will depend on the family background, ages and abilities of the pupils. However, if it is inappropriate for some or all of the pupils to take part in Christian collective worship, the Headteacher may apply to the local Standing advisory council on Religious Education (SACRE) for a determination to have this requirement lifted.

### Implementation:

Collective worship will:

- \*be acceptable to the whole community, staff and pupils
- \*include a variety of elements and styles at different times
- \*involve the pupils
- \*happen every day
- \*wholly Christian in nature.

A daily act of Collective Worship will include the following themes reflecting the traditions of Christian belief.

- Shared values – loving and caring, the value of both the individual and the community, concern for the natural world, concern for social justice.
- Distinctive Christian beliefs – creation, forgiveness, faith, death and resurrection, reconciliation, incarnation, empowerment and ultimate purpose.
- Local and global themes.
- Themes based on the aims of the school – enhancing the school ethos, supporting personal and social education contributing to the sense of community and shared values.

Elements of collective worship:

The elements that contribute to collective worship should be flexible and should not all be included in every time of worship, but may include;

- \*Greeting
- \*Time for question and answers/ contributions from the children
- \*Reflection/ quiet time
- \*Prayer
- \*Lighting of candle
- \*Worship song
- \*Story
- \*Poetry
- \*Contribution from children.

Teaching staff lead collective worship/ assemblies throughout the term. All staff attend collective worship where possible, with the aim of building the sense of whole school community and sharing experience and common understanding.

The school is working towards implementing child-led worship teams which will lead one act of worship every term for each value. Prayer leaders are chosen each week where children confidently lead prayers of their own. The 'TSP' format of prayers is used for children to structure their prayers.

Resources:

The following resources are available for use when leading collective worship;

- \*Lion Storyteller Bible
- \*IWB and laptop
- \*CD – of songs to sing with accompanying lyrics (on shared drive), for use without a pianist
- \*Values for Life, resource.
- \*Roots and Fruits resource.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review:

Mary Teeboon in partnership with Jo Gotheridge, the Collective Worship Coordinator for partner schools, will together attend training, organise and disseminate good practice to the whole staff. As part of the schools' Christian distinctiveness, collective worship will be represented on the website and the Headteacher is overall responsible for maintaining an overview of the aspect of school life.

The foundation governor has been allocated responsibility for aiding the coordinator in embarking on evaluating the collective worship and will do this via prearranged visits to the school.

Pupils will be involved in evaluating the collective worship that happens in school, and responding to the values via a reflection journal (Imaginer)

The coordinator will provide weekly collective worship plan to all staff who are leading collective worship.

The schools will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.

At Hartington School we see Collective Worship as an integral part of the curriculum and the school day, and as such it requires careful planning, preparation and evaluation. We have endeavoured to allow adequate time and build upon our resources which are reviewed regularly. We use and rely upon a wide variety of resources and approaches.

An important aspect of Collective Worship is fostering the spiritual, moral, social and cultural developments of pupils and is an integral element of the curriculum. This helps pupils to develop their own ideas about the world, themselves and about the value and worth of other people.

Collective Worship can sensitively seek to invoke feelings and senses from which it might be said the spiritual and cultural areas of experiences arise: Hope, Peace, Friendship, Community, Creation, Forgiveness, Humility, Endurance, Wisdom, Compassion, Service, Reverence and Thankfulness.

### **Philosophy**

We want to continue to be at the heart of our community and ensure that we maintain a distinctly Christian atmosphere and culture within our school. Worship is an integral part of life within our school as it provides the opportunity to celebrate, as well as encourage our pupils to think about their place in the world, through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. We strive to educate children to think deeply about themselves, the world in which they live and the place that faith has in our society.

As a Church of England Primary School, our Collective Worship will be in accordance with the principles and practices of the Anglican Church. The daily act of Collective Worship has a special status, but while being distinct from RE, the content filters throughout our curriculum and links made.

### **Aims**

- To explore Christian values, with a focus on our school's values of: Respect, Service, Compassion, Friendship, Love & Generosity
- To enable pupils to explore and respond to a variety of forms of worship, thus enabling those pupils with a religious commitment to deepen their experience of worship, and to allow those without a religious commitment to begin to appreciate what worship means for others and to be able to reflect on their own spiritual needs.
- To make links with current world issues and British Values by encouraging children to recognise their responsibility to become courageous advocates for change.
- To enable pupils to become familiar with spiritual and moral issues and consider how these relate to modern life.
- To acknowledge what is important to our pupils as individuals, our school and the wider community.
- To celebrate achievements, special occasions and special events in relation to individual pupils within school, to the school as a whole, or to the wider community.
- To acknowledge and respect difference and diversity.
- To nurture children's understanding and respect of the diversity and difference within our community and the world.
- To become outstanding citizens who put others before ourselves.

## Our Collective Worship Team

A small group of children take on the responsibility of being our Pupil Voices for Collective Worship. They collect feedback from all of the children about what is going well and what could be improved, before reporting back to the Collective Worship Coordinators. They also provide ideas for the content of our worship sessions and contribute to establishing a spiritual environment. They work alongside the Co-Collective Worship Coordinators (Mrs Blackwell & Ms. Teeboon), who provide the appropriate guidance.

## Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is time tabled on a daily basis with staff taking a lead role in its delivery. Weekly planning and organisation is a collaboration between the House Captains and the Collective Worship Co-ordinator.

| Day                  | Person Leading            | Theme                    |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday               | Mrs Fletcher/Ms. Teeboon  | Praise and Worship       |
| Tuesday              | Mrs Fletcher/Ms. Teeboon  | Praise and Worship       |
| Wednesday            | Mrs Fletcher/Ms. Teeboon  | Praise and Worship       |
| Thursday             | Mrs Fletcher/Ms. Teeboon  | Praise and Worship       |
| Friday               | Mrs Blackwell/Ms. Teeboon | Celebration Worship      |
| Once Every Half Term | Collective Worship Team   | Family Worship in Church |

There is a decorated or 'themed table' providing the children with a focus or special area to centre their thoughts and minds throughout Collective Worship.

## Right of Withdrawal

Our school is based on an inclusive ethos and we expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, we respect the right of any parent/guardian to request permission for their child to be excused. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education reform Act. Withdrawal will only be made after parental discussion with the Head teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. The school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of those children granted withdrawal from assemblies. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education reform Act.

The head teacher will maintain a record of any children withdrawn from Collective Worship.

This policy is reviewed bi-annually

Reviewed: September 2025