



Trinity St. Peter's
Church of England Primary School
where children shine

Collective Worship Policy

Trinity St. Peter's

School Mission Statement: *'Guided by our faith in everything that we do'.*

School Vision: *"Every child is a star."*

School Bible Base: *"Shine like the stars in the universe" – Philippians 2:15*

School Core Christian values:

Serve (Service), Hope, Imagine (Creation), Nurture (Kindness) & Enjoy (Joy).

All Saints MAT Mission & Vision: *Stronger Together for the Common Good*

All Saints MAT Bible Base: *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks they should do as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides" - 1 Peter 4:10-11*

All Saints MAT Christian Values: *Aspiration, Inclusion, Service*

Vision and Intent

At Trinity St Peter's, we firmly believe that every child is a star and that we should work in partnership with all members of the local and wider community to provide each child with the skills and values they need to SHINE in the real world. We want all our children to enjoy their learning journey, to achieve their full potential and to become caring global citizens of the world with the motivation and confidence to be the best they can be.

The school's mission statement is: *'Guided by our faith in everything that we do'.* The school's five core Christian values: **Serve** (Service), **Hope**, **Imagine** (Creation), **Nurture** (Kindness) & **Enjoy** (Joy) are embedded in all aspects of school life to ensure the vision and mission statement are a reality at Trinity St. Peter's. These values are linked to Biblical teaching and explored explicitly during Collective Worship. Our vision is to provide experiences for all children to have endless opportunities to *'shine like stars in the universe'* (Philippians 2:15).

Purpose and Theology of Collective Worship

At Trinity St Peter's, Collective Worship is a central part of our daily life, which gives us the opportunity to come together as a family. Worship is invitational, inclusive and inspiring, offering a time for reflection, connection and community. It reflects the Anglican foundation of our school and supports the spiritual development of all pupils and adults.

Worship enables children to:

- Encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Develop spiritual curiosity and wonder.
- Reflect on moral and ethical questions.
- Deepen understanding of Christian values and the wider world.
- Understand what it means to be part of a community and to act with compassion.
- Experience the rich traditions of Anglican worship.

Structure of Collective Worship

Collective Worship occurs daily, following a weekly structure:

Monday – Class-Based Collective Worship (BIG Question Focus)

- Teachers introduce the 'BIG Question' using the Picture News PowerPoint.
- Children are encouraged to explore the issue personally, locally, nationally and globally, developing their understanding of what it means to be global citizens.
- Worship is linked explicitly to the core Christian concept and Christian value introduced in the Picture News resource.
- Worship ends with the suggested prayer and space for personal reflection.

Tuesday – Class-Based Christian Values Collective Worship

- The Christian value/theme from the All Saints MAT Collective Worship, Prayer and Liturgy calendar is explored.
- Worship develops pupils' biblical literacy and spiritual reflection.

Wednesday – Clergy-Led Collective Worship (Whole School in Hall)

- The theme from the All Saints MAT Collective Worship, Prayer and Liturgy calendar is revisited with deeper biblical and spiritual reflection, led by visiting clergy.
- This builds on Tuesday's theme to deepen spiritual understanding.

Thursday – Sing & Praise (Whole School in Hall)

- Whole-school hymn singing, drawing on worship resources and songs linked to forthcoming religious celebrations and Church services.
- This provides an opportunity for joyful celebration and community worship.

Friday – Celebration 'Class Stars' Worship (Class-Based)

- Class Stars Achievement Celebration Worship is held in class.
- This recognises pupils' effort, achievement and personal growth.
- The celebration includes a clear act of worship through prayer, reflection and reference to the school's Christian vision and values.

Pupil leadership: Pupils are also given opportunities, where appropriate, to take responsibility for prayers, readings or other contributions during the weekly pattern of worship.

In addition to this, worship also takes place in either St Peter's or Holy Trinity Church, where all parents and carers are invited to attend. Throughout the year, classes lead assemblies for the whole school on religious themes, for example, Easter Week. Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils take part in a Nativity performance. Visiting groups and individuals are also welcomed into school to lead worship, where appropriate.

Inclusivity and Engagement

Worship is inclusive and accessible to all. It is delivered in a way that:

- Welcomes all children regardless of background or faith.
- Offers opportunities to participate, lead and respond.
- Provides space for stillness, silence and prayer.

Environment and Atmosphere

A daily act of Collective Worship is held and conducted in a calm, respectful, and dignified manner. Worship typically begins in a clearly defined way - such as the lighting of a candle, a moment of prayer, or a piece of reflective music. Children understand that this is a special and sacred time set aside for reverence, stillness and spiritual reflection. We expect all pupils to engage respectfully by being quiet, thoughtful, attentive and to participate fully in worship through prayer, reflection, and song, as appropriate.

Spiritual Development

At Trinity St Peter's, spiritual development is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a key area in ensuring our distinctiveness as a Church school. We are committed to providing rich opportunities for our pupils' spiritual development, which underpins our mission statement:

"Guided by our faith in everything that we do"

We define spirituality as: *An opportunity to connect to ourselves, others, the world and beyond through experience, reflection and transformation.*

Please also read this policy with the school's RE policy.

At Trinity St Peter's we believe there are four main concepts of spirituality:

- **Self:** Being a unique person and understanding self-perception.
- **Others:** Developing empathy, concern, compassion, and understanding the impact of values on relationships.
- **World and Beauty:** Responding to the physical and creative world through experiences of nature and art.
- **Beyond:** Exploring the transcendental, and seeking meaning and connection beyond the everyday.

Collective Worship provides daily space for spiritual development through prayer, silence, music, storytelling, personal reflection, shared community, creative expression, questioning, and opportunities to encounter the mystery and wonder of God and the Trinity.

Child Leadership and Pupil Voice

The 'Worship Committee' (two children per class, Y1-Y6) meets at least monthly with the Subject Lead to share feedback, suggest improvements, and lead on projects or tasks related to Collective Worship. Members also contribute to the planning and delivery of worship where appropriate.

'Gather, Pause for Thought and Go Forth' resources support pupil-led worship. Pupils are also given opportunities, where appropriate, to take responsibility for prayers, readings or other contributions during the weekly pattern of worship.

Each class and phase group has access to a dedicated reflection area within the school environment, providing a quiet space for stillness, prayer, or spiritual reflection. Children

also are encouraged to contribute their own prayers using class prayer templates, as and when they wish.

Planning and Resources

- Weekly themes are linked to the Picture News 'BIG Question' Collective Worship resource and the All Saints MAT Worship Calendar.
- A shared folder contains bespoke SHINE value planners, values-based resources, and child-led planning templates.
- Staff and clergy work collaboratively to ensure theological depth and avoid repetition.

Multi-Faith and Global Links

As well as the significance placed on the teaching of the Christian faith, our school also encourages children to be aware that they live in a multi-cultural and multi-faith society. The children are given the opportunity to reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding.

Worship, where appropriate, incorporates teachings from other world religions, especially where these align with Christian values, to build global understanding and respect. This complements our commitment to Global Citizenship supports pupils in developing a deeper appreciation of diversity and shared human values.

Children are encouraged to make respectful comparisons between Christianity and other faiths, deepening their theological literacy and understanding of common themes. Multi-faith links are embedded within resources used (Picture News and the MAT Liturgical Calendar) to ensure regular and meaningful inclusion.

These opportunities support our children in becoming courageous advocates, recognising and celebrating difference while rooted in a confident understanding of their own Christian identity.

Right of Withdrawal

The Worship & Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and whole life of the community. Since the conduct of the school reflects the Church of England ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do so) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.

Collective Worship is provided for all registered pupils each school day, except where a parent has exercised their legal right of withdrawal. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of Collective Worship in accordance with legal requirements. However, as a Church of England school where worship is central to our Christian vision and whole-school ethos, we encourage full participation. Requests for withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

If a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher will explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation as it may be that only some elements of worship are objected to. The school will seek to make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of Collective Worship. The Headteacher will offer

to discuss the request with parents to ensure they are fully informed, although parents are not required to give reasons for exercising this right.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship is monitored primarily by the Collective Worship Subject Leader, Headteacher and Link Governor for Collective Worship and RE. Monitoring includes:

- observations of worship
- pupil voice
- staff feedback
- worship committee feedback
- planning scrutiny
- governor monitoring

Findings are used to inform the School Development Plan and shared with governors and staff, as appropriate. Collective Worship continues to be a key area for development and excellence, in alignment with SIAMS guidance.

The coordination and planning of the Collective Worship curriculum are the responsibility of the subject leader, who also:

- supports colleagues in their delivery, by keeping informed about current developments in worship and by providing a strategic lead and direction for this subject; evaluates the strengths and weaknesses in worship and indicates areas for further improvement and;
- reviews the policy annually, or in light of new statutory guidance, to ensure that it complies with the latest legislation, guidance and best practice.



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