



Collective Worship Policy

Encourage, Guide, Support, Celebrate



Approved: Autumn 2026
Review: Autumn 2029

Vision Led Collective Worship:

Encouraging, Guiding, Supporting and Celebrating All to Flourish

Our vision is to nurture a loving, friendly family ethos which celebrates the different gifts God has given everyone (Romans 12:6). Through encouragement, guidance, support and celebration, we enable all members of our school family to flourish academically, spiritually, socially and emotionally. Rooted in the Christian belief that every person is uniquely created and loved by God, we seek to ensure that all are valued, respected and empowered to use their gifts in service of others and the wider world. Inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:11, we strive to "encourage one another and build each other up."

Purpose

Collective worship is the heartbeat of our school community. It provides opportunities for pupils, staff and visitors to gather together, encounter Christian teaching and values, reflect on life's big questions and respond in ways that promote flourishing for all. Governors play an active role in supporting, monitoring and evaluating collective worship to ensure it remains faithful to the school's Christian vision and contributes to the flourishing of all members of the community.

Aims of Collective Worship

- Explore and live out our Christian vision and values.
- Celebrate the gifts and talents of every individual.
- Provide worship that is inclusive, invitational and inspiring.
- Develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the teachings of Jesus.
- Provide opportunities for prayer, reflection, stillness and spiritual growth.
- Encourage respect, compassion and courageous action in the wider world.
- Recognise and celebrate the God-given dignity, worth and uniqueness of every individual.
- Enable all members of the school community to flourish spiritually, emotionally, socially and academically.
- Develop a sense of hope, aspiration and responsibility for the common good.
- Develop a sense of stewardship for God's work in the local and global environment.
- Inspire pupils to become courageous advocates who seek justice and serve others.
- Foster a sense of belonging within the school, church and wider community.

Organisation and Planning

Collective worship takes place daily either in class, together in the school hall or in other sites including St. Michael's Church, Forest School and other schools. Worship follows the Diocese of Canterbury and Rochester three-year rolling collective worship scheme. The scheme supports staff in exploring themes across the school year and allows the children to revisit ideas across the week, to be able to promote

independent thinking and then form their own beliefs and responses. Themes are linked to the Christian year, biblical teaching and the needs of the school community. Worship may be led by staff, pupils, clergy and approved visitors. School council work to promote courageous advocacy across the year, promoting causes for the school to actively engage in our value of koinonia.

As a Church of England school, collective worship reflects the rich traditions of Anglican practice whilst remaining inclusive of all members of our community. Pupils experience worship through prayer, biblical teaching, the Christian calendar, Anglican liturgy and strong partnerships with St Michael's Church. Worship helps pupils understand both the distinctiveness of Christianity and the importance of respecting people of all faiths and worldviews.

Impact of Collective Worship

Collective worship contributes significantly to the flourishing of the whole school community. It helps pupils and adults to understand and live out the school's Christian vision, develop spiritually, build positive relationships and recognise their responsibility to care for others and the wider world. The messages explored through collective worship are reinforced through the daily life of the school. Pupils are recognised and celebrated for demonstrating the Christian values of kindness, honesty, communication, koinonia, independence, enquiry and resilience, helping to ensure that the school's vision is lived out in practice and contributes to the flourishing of all. The impact of collective worship is reviewed regularly by leaders and governors through monitoring, pupil voice and evaluation activities to ensure worship continues to develop and strengthen the lived expression of the school's Christian vision

Spiritual Development

Collective worship is a key contributor to the spiritual development of pupils and adults. Through opportunities for prayer, stillness, reflection and engagement with biblical teaching, worship encourages individuals to explore life's big questions and consider their own beliefs, values and responses. Worship provides moments of awe and wonder, helping pupils develop a sense of meaning, purpose and connection with God, others, themselves and the wider world. In this way, collective worship supports the flourishing of all within our school community.

Worship Structure

Worship will typically include: Gather, Engage, Respond and Send. Worship includes Bible teaching, singing, prayer, storytelling, discussion, reflection, drama, pupil leadership and opportunities to encounter Christian festivals and traditions. We understand that a variety of worship strengthens our children's engagement and enjoyment when participating.

Inclusivity

Collective worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring. It recognises and values the diversity of the school community and provides opportunities for everyone to participate in ways that are meaningful and appropriate to their own beliefs and experiences. Prayer, reflection and response are always invitational and never compulsory. Through worship, pupils are encouraged to develop respect, empathy, understanding and appreciation of both Christianity and the wider world.

Pupil Leadership

Pupils are encouraged to plan, lead and evaluate worship through worship teams and class worship opportunities as well as lead worship opportunities in other settings, including church and other schools.

Pupils contribute to the planning, leadership and evaluation of worship through worship teams, prayer groups, church services and class-led worship. Their views help shape future worship and ensure it remains relevant, engaging and meaningful. Pupil feedback is used to inform future planning and development of collective worship.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated by school leaders, governors, clergy, staff and pupils through monitoring visits, pupil voice, worship evaluations and discussions with stakeholders. Evaluation focuses on the impact of worship on the flourishing of pupils and adults, the lived expression of the school's Christian vision and the effectiveness of worship in being inclusive, invitational and inspiring. Evaluation outcomes inform future planning and demonstrate how worship is shaping the spiritual development and flourishing of pupils and adults.

Legal Requirements

The school complies with statutory requirements for a daily act of collective worship in accordance with its Church of England foundation. Parents retain the legal right to withdraw their child from collective worship.