



**CRIGGLESTONE ST JAMES CE PRIMARY
ACADEMY**



Ready For The Future
Collective Worship Policy

September 2026



Contents

1. Vision and Theological Foundation
2. Legal Status of Collective Worship
3. Aims of Collective Worship
4. Principles of Collective Worship
5. Organisation of Collective Worship
6. Structure and Format of Worship
7. Prayer and Reflection
8. Pupil Leadership and Participation
9. Worship Themes and Content
10. Inclusion and Equality
11. Right to Withdraw
12. Monitoring, Evaluation and Development
13. Roles and Responsibilities
14. Conclusion
15. Appendix I: Guidance for Visitors

1. Vision and Theological Foundation

Our vision reflects our aspiration for every child to flourish spiritually, morally, socially, emotionally and academically.

Our Vision:

Ready for the Future

To enable us to be 'Ready for the Future', our vision is rooted in the parable of the 'Good Samaritan' (Luke 10:25-37) where children, staff and the wider school community can be their best selves and serve others by living our six values:

- Kindness
- Responsibility
- Respect
- Forgiveness
- Compassion
- Perseverance

Rooted in the Christian faith and inspired by the teachings of Jesus, particularly the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), we believe that education is about far more than the acquisition of knowledge. We seek to develop children who use their knowledge, skills and talents to serve others and make a positive contribution to society.

Collective Worship is central to the life and work of our school and is a key expression of our Christian vision. It acts as a daily opportunity for our school community to gather together, reflect on Christian values, celebrate achievements, explore faith and spirituality, and strengthen our sense of belonging.

Our vision can be seen as the constant heartbeat of our school and is reflected throughout our worship, curriculum and daily relationships.



2. Legal Status of Collective Worship

Criggleshstone St James CE Primary Academy is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School.

Collective Worship is a statutory requirement and takes place daily in accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

As a Church of England school, our Collective Worship:

- Reflects the traditions of the Church of England.
- Is distinct from Religious Education.
- Is inclusive of all members of the school community.
- Is rooted in our Christian vision and values.
- Provides opportunities for spiritual growth and reflection.
- Recognises and respects the diversity of faith and belief represented within our school community.

Worship may take place as:

- Whole-school worship.
- Key stage worship.
- Class-based worship.
- Church services.
- Special festival celebrations.

Collective Worship forms an important part of the school's Christian distinctiveness and contributes significantly to the spiritual development of pupils and adults.

3. Aims of Collective Worship

Through Collective Worship, we aim to:

- Provide opportunities to worship God.
- Deepen understanding of the Christian faith and Anglican tradition.
- Support the school's Christian vision and values.
- Encourage spiritual growth and personal reflection.
- Enable pupils and adults to explore life's big questions.
- Develop a sense of awe, wonder and thankfulness.
- Foster a sense of belonging and community.
- Celebrate diversity and respect for others.
- Promote moral responsibility and social awareness.
- Encourage service, compassion and courage.
- Help pupils recognise their own value and the value of others.
- Celebrate achievements and significant events in school, church and wider society.

4. Principles of Collective Worship

At Criggleshstone St James, Collective Worship is:

Inclusive: Everyone is welcomed, valued and respected regardless of faith, belief, background or culture.

Invitational: Participation in prayer and reflection is always invitational. Pupils are welcomed to engage in ways that are meaningful to them and are never required to pray or make declarations of faith.



Inspiring: Worship encourages pupils and adults to reflect deeply, develop spiritually and consider how they can live out our vision and values.

Relevant: Themes are linked to pupils' experiences, current events, the Christian calendar, scripture and our school values.

Participatory: Children are encouraged to take an active role in planning, leading and evaluating worship.

5. Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place daily. The weekly pattern currently consists of:

Monday: Whole-school Collective Worship led by staff.

Tuesday: Key Stage 2 Praise Worship led by the Deputy Headteacher. Class worship using Picture News for EYFS and KS1.

Wednesday: EYFS and KS1 Praise Worship led by the Music Coordinator. Class worship using Picture News for KS2.

Thursday: Whole-school Collective Worship led by staff.

Friday: Whole-school Celebration and Vision Worship led by the Headteacher.

Worship is also regularly enhanced through contributions from:

- St James' Church, Chapelthorpe.
- Visiting clergy.

Special acts of worship are held throughout the year, including:

- Harvest Festival
- Christmas Services
- Easter Services
- Leavers' Services
- National and local commemorations

Some of these services are held in St James Church and involve pupils, families, staff, governors and the wider community.

6. Structure and Format of Worship

Collective Worship follows a recognisable pattern which helps create a meaningful and reflective experience. Worship normally includes:

Gathering

- Music, images or questions for reflection.
- A welcoming atmosphere.

Engaging

- Biblical teaching.
- Storytelling.
- Discussion.
- Drama.
- Music.
- Reflection on current issues and values.

Responding

- Prayer.
- Reflection.
- Silence.



- Personal response.
- Reflection/Stillness

Sending

- A thought a challenge or a task. to take into the day.

Any notices are kept separate from the act of worship wherever possible.

Worship spaces in the hall will include:

- A focal table.
- Liturgical colours.
- A cross
- A candle.
- A Bible.

7. Prayer and Reflection

Prayer is an important part of life at St James. Prayer opportunities are provided through:

- Daily Collective Worship.
- Class worship.
- Lunchtime prayers.
- End-of-day pray.
- Church services.
- Pupil-led prayer.
- Reflection areas around school.

Prayer is always invitational. Children who choose not to pray are encouraged to participate respectfully through quiet reflection or contemplation.

We actively teach children that prayer can take many forms and that stillness, reflection and contemplation are valuable spiritual practices.

8. Pupil Leadership and Participation

Pupil leadership is a significant strength of worship at St James.

The Collective Worship Committee:

- Welcomes pupils and visitors.
- Reads scripture.
- Leads prayers.
- Collects pupil voice.
- Evaluates worship.
- Suggests improvements.

Other pupil ministry roles include:

- Welcomers.
- Readers.
- Intercessors.
- Prayer leaders.
- Worship evaluators.

These opportunities help pupils develop confidence, responsibility, leadership and spiritual understanding.



9. Worship Themes and Content

Collective Worship explores the Christian values that underpin our vision.

Themes include:

- Kindness
- Responsibility
- Respect
- Forgiveness
- Compassion
- Perseverance

Worship also reflects:

- The Christian calendar.
- Bible stories and teachings.
- Church seasons.
- National and global events.
- British Values.
- Local community issues.
- Children's achievements and experiences.

The school follows the liturgical year and makes use of Anglican traditions, symbols and resources where appropriate.

Worship is rooted in scripture and provides opportunities for pupils to encounter Christian beliefs whilst respecting the diversity of views represented within the school community.

10. Inclusion and Equality

At St James, every member of the school community is valued and respected.

Collective Worship promotes:

- Human dignity.
- Respect.
- Equality.
- Compassion.
- Justice.
- Inclusion.

Worship reflects the diverse nature of our community and seeks to ensure that all pupils can participate meaningfully regardless of:

- Faith background.
- Culture.
- Ethnicity.
- Gender.
- Ability.
- Additional needs.

Materials and approaches are carefully selected to ensure accessibility for all learners.

11. Right to Withdraw

Parents have the legal right to request that their child be wholly or partly withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher.



The Headteacher will discuss any request with parents to ensure that they fully understand the nature and purpose of Collective Worship within a Church of England school and the arrangements that will be made should withdrawal be requested.

Where a pupil is withdrawn from Collective Worship, appropriate supervision will be provided. The school is not required to provide alternative Collective Worship or alternative curriculum activities during this time.

Teaching staff have the legal right to withdraw from leading or attending Collective Worship. Any member of staff wishing to exercise this right should discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

The school remains committed to ensuring that Collective Worship is inclusive, invitational and inspirational for all members of the school community.

I2. Monitoring, Evaluation and Development

The quality and impact of Collective Worship is monitored regularly by:

- The Headteacher.
- Collective Worship Leader.
- Governors.
- Pupil Worship Leaders.
- The Diocese.

Monitoring activities include:

- Worship observations.
- Learning walks.
- Pupil voice.
- Staff feedback.
- Governor monitoring visits.
- Reflection boards.
- Collective Worship evaluations.

Findings are used to support school improvement and ensure that worship continues to reflect the school's vision and meet the needs of the community.

Professional development opportunities are provided through:

- The Diocese of Leeds.
- SIAMS training.
- Staff meeting updates.
- Induction for new staff.

I3. Roles and Responsibilities

Headteacher

The Headteacher:

- Ensures statutory requirements are met.
- Leads and monitors Collective Worship.
- Promotes the school's Christian vision.
- Supports pupil leadership.

Collective Worship Leader

The Collective Worship Leader:

- Oversees worship planning.



- Monitors quality and impact.
- Supports staff.
- Coordinates pupil leadership.
- Maintains links with church partners.

Staff

Staff are expected to:

- Support and value Collective Worship.
- Contribute to leading worship.
- Promote the Christian vision and values.
- Encourage meaningful participation.

Governors

Governors:

- Monitor statutory compliance.
- Support Christian distinctiveness.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Collective Worship.
- Contribute to SIAMS self-evaluation.

14. Conclusion

Collective Worship is at the heart of life at Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy. It provides daily opportunities for our school community to gather together, worship, reflect, celebrate and grow. Through Collective Worship, we seek to live out our vision of being **"Ready for the Future"**, nurturing children who understand their value, care for others and are equipped to make a positive difference in the world.

Appendix I: Guidance for Visitors Leading Collective Worship

Visitors are warmly welcomed as partners in our worship life.

Visitors should:

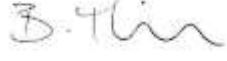
- Arrive in good time.
- Discuss arrangements with school staff beforehand.
- Ensure content is appropriate for the age of the children.
- Respect the Christian foundation of the school.
- Support the school's vision and values.
- Encourage participation without coercion.
- Be sensitive to differing beliefs and family circumstances.
- Use language that is inclusive and age appropriate.
- Finish within agreed timings.

Visitors should ensure that worship remains consistent with the Christian character of the school and contributes positively to the spiritual development of pupil

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner in response to changes in statutory requirements, diocesan guidance or school priorities.. The next scheduled review date for this policy is September 2028.



Date policy agreed:	September 2026
Date of next review:	September 2028
Head teacher signature:	
Chair of governors' signature	