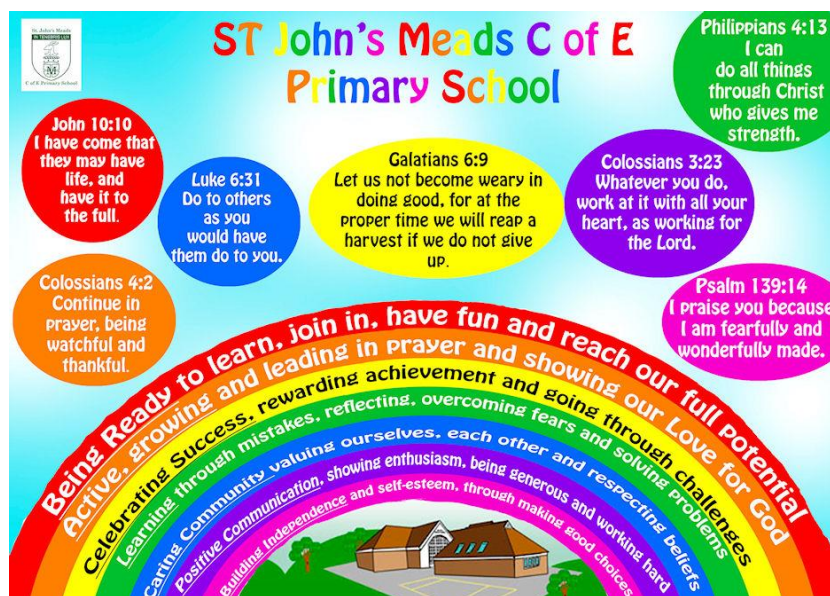


# Collective Worship Policy

## Introduction

At St John's Meads CE Primary School, collective worship strengthens and supports the Christian ethos and identity of our school and reaffirms our Christian vision and values.

*Loving learning and loving one another, as God loves us.  
Celebrating success in its many forms and overcoming challenges.  
Praying for and caring for our whole community.  
Learning to live in the light of Christ and as a light to others.*



Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found within the Church of England and our parish and follows the Christian liturgical year. The daily act of worship is at the heart of our school and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our school and celebrates the central role that each person has to play within our school community.

## Aims

Our collective worship is planned:

- to be inspiring, inclusive, invitational<sup>1</sup> and engaging, so that all participants are able to talk about the difference worship makes to their relationships and the life of the school
- around Biblical texts and Christian teaching

<sup>1</sup> *Collective worship in a church school should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faiths. It should not presuppose shared beliefs.*



*Loving learning and loving one another, as God loves us.  
Celebrating success in its many forms and overcoming challenges.  
Praying for and caring for our whole community.  
Learning to live in the light of Christ and as a light to others.*



- to deepen understanding of our Christian values
- with a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, enabling each one of us to embark on an understanding of the Trinity
- to deepen our understanding of Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide
- to challenge everyone, regardless of background to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey
- to develop an appreciation and understanding of the value of prayer, reflection and stillness
- to develop a sense of the spiritual, creating opportunities to wonder and respond to something beyond the everyday
- to praise, celebrate and give thanks
- to acknowledge significant achievements and mark significant occasions within the school, local and international community

## Legal Requirements

We meet legal requirements by providing a daily act of collective worship which is in line with our Trust Deed and Anglican foundation. The Governing Body holds responsibility for ensuring that the legal requirements for worship are met and that pupils have the opportunity to engage each day in a meaningful act of Christian worship. Our daily worship is usually whole school worship, but may also be in class or groups.

### Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. We comply with any request from a parent to withdraw their child. However, in view of the Christian ethos and distinctive Christian character of our school, we hope that all children admitted will participate in collective worship, and that anyone wishing to withdraw their child will discuss this with the Headteacher before making their decision. Following a conversation with the Headteacher, parents should confirm this request in writing.

As a church school all members of staff are asked to support the Christian ethos of the school and therefore we expect staff to attend worship. Any member of staff wishing to withdraw from worship should discuss their wishes with the Headteacher. Should a member of staff still seek to withdraw following this discussion they should provide written notice to the Headteacher and governing body.

## Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

As with all school experiences, access to collective worship for pupils with SEND is well-considered (refer to SEND policy), alongside individual levels of understanding, and developmental and learning needs. Where appropriate, adaptations are made to enable full or partial participation. This may include resources such as ear defenders, visual or auditory aids (subtitles on videos), adult support or selected attendance.

Policy: Collective Worship

Date: April 2023

Review: April 2025



*Loving learning and loving one another, as God loves us.  
Celebrating success in its many forms and overcoming challenges.  
Praying for and caring for our whole community.  
Learning to live in the light of Christ and as a light to others.*



## **Our Approach**

Our pattern of worship is:

Monday – Headteacher

Tuesday – Member of staff (Curriculum/Wellbeing focus)

Wednesday – Collective Worship Leader/visitor from local church

Thursday – Music Worship

Friday – Celebration

### **Community Involvement in Worship**

Annelie Cooper and Julian Dale (All Saints Church) and the Open The Book team (comprising members of the congregation from St John's Church) are involved in and enrich our worship on a regular basis.

### **Enhancements**

In line with the liturgical calendar, our worship is enhanced through special whole school services at St John's Church. These are commonly led by pupils and are an opportunity for parents/carers/grandparents, staff, governors and pupils to engage in worship together. Once a term, collective worship takes the form of a pastoral care session rather than an assembly. This takes place in classrooms and includes opportunities for discussion and response in smaller, familiar, mixed age groups. Responses are often in the form of art/craft, prayers or reflections and these are used within the school's central prayer space.

### **Pupil Involvement in Worship**

Pupils play an active part in worship through writing and reading prayers. Through the year, there are opportunities for pupils to be involved in planning and leading worship, such as during Family Communion and in collaboration with the Collective Worship Co-ordinator. Pupils regularly reflect on the content of collective worship and the themes; reflections are recorded in Learning Portfolios and on the Collective Worship Display.

### **Planning of worship**

Our annual plan of worship is adapted to create links with Church foci, the school's priorities and what is happening in the wider world as appropriate. Each term has an overall theme with smaller weekly themes within it. Our collective worship planning is available on our website (see Appendix 1 for an example).

## **Collective Worship Co-ordinator**

Collective worship is coordinated by Kim Leach, our Children and Families' Leader. The collective worship co-ordinator is responsible for long term planning of worship, leading acts of worship, supporting staff and pupils who are planning and leading worship. The collective worship co-ordinator is responsible for liaising with member of St John's Church and other local churches.

Policy: Collective Worship

Date: April 2023

Review: April 2025



*Loving learning and loving one another, as God loves us.  
Celebrating success in its many forms and overcoming challenges.  
Praying for and caring for our whole community.  
Learning to live in the light of Christ and as a light to others.*



## Monitoring and Evaluation of Worship

We regularly evaluate our acts of collective worship and the impact they have on the school and our wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, the RE Leader, staff, pupils and governors and takes place both informally and formally. Everyone who leads worship is asked to evaluate continuously, reflecting on how they can improve and develop their practice.

Formal monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship is undertaken by the Ethos Committee. This may include attendance at collective worship, meeting with the Collective Worship coordinator or RE leader and conducting pupil voice.

Pupils are involved in evaluating collective worship through their reflections and pupil voice. The impact of our collective worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005.

This policy has been adopted by the Governors (via the Ethos Committee) in consultation with the senior leaders, the Collective Worship leader and teaching staff.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other policies:

- SMSC Policy
- SEND Policy

Appendix 1 – Collective worship Termly plan

2022 - 2023 Collective Worship					
Term 4 : Overall Theme - Prayer. [Big Question: How can prayer change our lives and the world around us?]					
Dates	Weekly Theme & Info	Awareness Days / Christian Festivals	Rainbow Vision	Learner Skills and Behaviour	Jigsaw
Week 1 20 - 24 Feb	<b>OUR FATHER</b> (Matthew 6:9, Psalm 8, Galatians 4:6-7) Prayer is a conversation (speaking and listening) with God. We pray to build a relationship with him - he gives us identity, purpose, provision, protection, help for ourselves, others and the world.	21: Shrove Tuesday 22: Ash Wed - Lent 21: Int. Mother Language Day	Be ready to learn, join in, have fun and reach our full potential.	Enthusiasm	<b>DREAMS AND GOALS</b>  1. Stay motivated when doing something challenging. 2. Keep trying even when it's difficult. 3. Work well with a partner or in a group. 4. Have a positive attitude. 5. Help others to achieve their goals. 6. Work hard to achieve their own dreams and goals.
Week 2 27 Feb - 3 Mar	<b>YOUR KINGDOM, YOUR WILL</b> (Matthew 6:10, Psalm 24:1-2, Micah 6:8, Mark 12:30-31, Romans 14:17-19) God made the earth and everything it, but it is hurting because we have messed it up. When we pray for others and the world, God works through those prayers to bring healing and restoration and transformation.	Women's History Month Fairtrade Fortnight (27 Feb - 12 Mar) 2: World Book Day	Active, growing and leading in prayer and showing our love for God.	Responsibility	
Week 3 6 - 10 Mar	<b>DAILY BREAD</b> (Matthew 6:11, Exodus 16:1-18, John 6:1-15, Matthew 7:7-11) God is our father, he loves us and wants to give good gifts. He wants us to ask him for all our daily needs and the needs of others. He always answers our prayers with a 'yes', 'wait' or 'no' which can be hard but we need to trust him - he knows what's best for	8: Int. Women's Day	Celebrating Success, rewarding achievement and going through challenges.	Attitude	
Week 4 13 - 17 Mar	<b>FORGIVE and PROTECT US</b> (Matthew 6:12-13, 1 John 1:5-9, Matthew 18:21-35, 1 Corinthians 10:12-13, Ephesians 6:11-14) We live in a fallen world full of temptation. We mess up, make mistakes and choose to behave in harmful ways. We can say sorry to God then he forgives us. We can ask him to help us forgive others. We can ask him to protect us from doing it again.	Science Week 19: Mothering Sunday	Learning through mistakes, reflecting, overcoming fears and solving problems.	Perseverance	
Week 5 20 - 24 Mar	<b>iSingPop Week - A week of sung worship</b>	SATS Trials 21: D. Syndrome Day 21: World Poetry Day 22: Ramadan	Caring Community, valuing ourselves, each other and respecting beliefs.	Collaboration	
Week 6 27 - 31 Mar	<b>POWER and GLORY</b> (Psalm 95, 1 Chronicles 29:10-20, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, 1 Timothy 4:4, Revelation 4:11) Prayer releases God's power on earth and fills it with his glory. Our response to all he has made and all that he does should be thankfulness, praise and adoration.		Positive communication, showing enthusiasm, being generous and working hard	Focus	

Policy: Collective Worship

Date: April 2023

Review: April 2025