



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Reviewed: September 2022

Next review: September 2025

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

Derek Smith Date: September 2022

DFE Circular 1/94, section 50 says:

“Collective Worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.”

What is Collective Worship?

Our Collective Worship at West Tytherley CE Primary School

Mission Statement

The Governors commit themselves to ensure that West Tytherley C.E. Primary School will serve the children by providing the best it can offer to encourage each child to fulfil their spiritual, moral, academic, social, emotional, physical and cultural potential in a Christian caring community.

Worship is mindful of the provisions of the Trust Deed in that it is in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church of England.

Aims at West Tytherley CE Primary

1. Collective worship aims to promote moral values, which are Christian but also apply to other faiths and to non-believers.
2. Collective worship aims to provide opportunities for pupils to learn from stories, from the experiences of others, and through provision of time for pupils to reflect.
3. Stories may be from the Bible, from other religions, about admirable people in history or in current times, and from other secular sources but the choice will be aimed at developing pupil's moral understanding.
4. Collective worship aims to use sources which inform children of their cultural heritage. As a broadly Christian country with a large majority of white British children in school, we aim to ensure that children learn about their Christian heritage.

5. Collective worship aims to allow pupils the opportunity to gain insight into the nature of “faith” and “belief” and “spirituality” and the impact that it can have on the lives of believers.
6. At no time will children be subject to indoctrination during collective worship. Phrases such as Christians believe ... or Muslims believe ... will be used. Pupils will be asked to think and to reflect on their own. Where specific prayers are said, pupils will be asked to listen carefully and think about what is being said and say “Amen” at the end if they agree.
7. Dedicated collective worship times may be short but must allow time for reflection and be a valuable and important part of the school day.
8. Collective worship and times for reflection or prayer, will be signalled by the lighting of a candle or by the use of one of the other suggested symbols.
9. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from attendance at religious worship in the school. It would be helpful if parents would consult with the Headteacher before making a final decision.

Currently arrangements are as follows:-

A variety of opportunities for collective worship are provided to meet the needs of a wide range of learners from 4 – 11 years old. Each week a new theme is introduced to the children and this often links in with one of the school key values: Care, Trust, Respect and Responsibility. The themes are planned by the Vicar in consultation with the SLT. Sometimes the theme relates to religious celebration days (e.g. St. Georges Day) or special events.

Sometimes collective worship is a stand alone session and sometimes it is part of a whole school assembly. The lighting of a candle, or alternative, indicates when the collective worship element of the assembly is about to take place. This will be at the beginning of the assembly.

Monday	This whole school assembly is led by the singing teacher. It is an opportunity to sing together and celebrate the school community through the medium of song. There is always an opportunity for personal reflection and usually the collective worship ends with a prayer.
Tuesday	The assembly is led by teaching staff in their classes, who will discuss a theme through an activity or short story.
Wednesday	This collective worship is usually led by the Vicar, who will discuss the theme through an activity or short story. This will end with a time for reflection and a prayer. Occasionally,

	members of the church will attend and lead the worship through a drama presentation of a biblical story.
Thursday	This collective worship is class based and is led by the class teacher. On some occasions collective worship may involve listening to a poem or a prayer, or singing a hymn and reflecting on this. We use a variety of sources and stimuli to engage the children – encouraging them to participate, reflect and respond. We also seek to develop awareness of wider issues around the world and consider our responsibility in making a difference. British Values are frequently referred to and discussed to broaden the childrens’ understanding of Respect, Tolerance, Individual Liberty, Democracy and Rule of Law.
Friday	This whole school collective worship is usually led by the Headteacher and parents are warmly welcome to attend. This is a Celebration Assembly, to focus on the talents, values and abilities of human kind. This is a positive opportunity to praise individual children in their achievements and success. Certificates are presented that emphasise the school values of care, trust, respect and responsibility – and also our school vision: believe, enjoy, grow and succeed.