

Ireleth St Peter's CofE Primary School (ISP)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



Aims of Collective Worship:

Collective Worship at Ireleth St Peter's C of E Primary School is an important element of our school's unique and distinctly Christian character. As a Church of England school, we consider that high-quality Collective Worship is an essential component in providing an education that allows children to flourish, and 'live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

In order to reflect and uphold this vision, we aim to ensure that all opportunities to worship in school are

- **Inclusive-** Worship is inclusive of, and fully accessible to all members of our school community at all stages of their spiritual journey. Children are given the opportunity to ask questions and to consent and dissent. We take care of the language used in worship to ensure that faith is not assumed, and all feel welcome.
- **Invitational-** Whilst all at ISP are invited to participate in worship, we take care to ensure that those of a different or no faith are able to engage with integrity. In order to do this, we uphold the 'warm fires and open doors' view promoted by the Church of England. The authentic Christian message provides the warm heart, or fire, and the open door allows all within our community to sit as near or far away as they are comfortable. Aspects such as prayer are always accompanied with the alternative to reflect.
- **Inspiring-** We aim for all aspects of Collective Worship at ISP to inspire our school community, enabling them to ask big questions and motivate them to consider the behaviour and actions of both themselves and others, nurturing courageous advocacy. Children should be inspired through worship to reflect on their own faiths, beliefs and convictions.

We believe that Collective Worship should give all in our school the opportunity to:

- ✓ Engage in an act of community.
- ✓ Express praise and thanksgiving to God.
- ✓ Be still and reflect.
- ✓ Explore the big questions of life, respond to national events and celebrate special times in the Christian calendar.
- ✓ Foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness, enabling pupils to explore their own beliefs;
- ✓ To provide opportunity for children to worship God through, stillness, reflection and prayer;
- ✓ To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- ✓ To celebrate the values of our Christian community, including the promotion and sharing of the gifts and talents of our children; share each other's joys and challenges.
- ✓ To promote a common ethos, with shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes;

*Inspiring Successful Partnership
through God's love*

Collective Worship

Worship will follow a planned programme of themes and respond to issues within the school, community, national and international events. Every month, we focus on a different value:

Month	Value
September	Friendship
October	Hope
November	Peace
December	Joy
January	Justice
February	Love
March	Perseverance
April	Service
May	Patience
June	Responsibility
July	Thankfulness

The school will visit St Peter's for acts of worship throughout the school year and to celebrate Christian festivals.

The school's collective worship will be based on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Faith. While most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold worship that reflects the traditions and celebrations of other religions to encourage sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others.

We also link our Christian values to the British values, which are also explored through Christian teachings:

- Democracy
- Rule of Law
- Respect
- Tolerance
- Individual Liberty

Acts of Collective Worship will promote positive attitudes and approaches to and sometimes challenge negative views of multicultural education, PHSE and equal opportunities.

Organisation of Collective Worship

Day	Time	Staff Member	Worship Content
Monday	2:55-3:10pm	Mrs Saunders	Gospel
Tuesday	2:55-3:10pm	All Staff	Class Worship
Wednesday	2:55-3:10pm	Mrs Kidson	Value of the month
Thursday	2:55-3:10pm	Miss Jackson/ Miss Wright	Hymn Practice
Friday	2:45-3:05pm	Mrs McFarlane	Praise Worship

*Inspiring Successful Partnership
through God's love*

We hold a daily act of Collective Worship. All acts of worship are highlighted on class timetables. We also welcome worship from visitors such as local clergy and other representatives from different religious denominations.

Wherever possible all staff will attend Collective Worship. Teaching staff are timetabled to deliver Collective Worship once per week.

Worship incorporates a wide range of styles, content and format, including an emotional range from quiet reflection and joyful exuberance, allowing children to explore their own beliefs in a number of ways.

We take the themes of worship from the traditions of the Christian Faith and we observe the festivals and mark the events of the Christian calendar. The theme of the worship may be related to the topic that we are teaching as part of the whole school curriculum or will relate to current news and international events.

Each month, we hold a Worker of the Month praise worship that parents and family members are invited to attend. We encourage their attendance through newsletters and Class Dojo. This aims to promote community spirit, celebrating the children's achievements.

Governor's attendance at Collective Worship is always welcomed.

Worship Council

Children are actively involved in leading worship and are encouraged to take responsibility for all components (e.g. read prayers, role play, organise music and hymns). This is led by our Worship council, where representatives are elected from each year group in Key Stage 2. Worship council, prepare the space for worship, welcome staff and lead hymns and prayer. They are also involved in organising and contributing to church services throughout the school year.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be withdrawn from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the day. Parents do not have to give their reasons for their request. The right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. The Headteacher will keep a record of all children who have been withdrawn from Collective Worship.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring the policy and practice of Collective Worship is the role of our Governing body. Monitoring takes place with Headteacher and RE subject leader, Mrs Saunders. Teaching staff and pupils evaluate Collective Worship.

This policy will be reviewed annually

Signed:
Ellie Saunders
Subject Leader

Date: 4/09/2022

Signed:
Rachael McFarlane
Headteacher

Date: 04/09/2022

Review Date: September 2023

*Inspiring Successful Partnership
through God's love*