



Wilbarston CEVC Primary School

Part of Pathfinder Schools
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Headteacher – Mrs Andrea Green BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

R.E Policy

Our Vision as a Church of England school is to deliver a caring, stimulating and enjoyable experience for all our pupils, during which pupils are expected to do their best at all times and to live out our Christian values by treating others as they would like to be treated. John 10:10 states (Good News Bible) Jesus said, "I have come in order that you might have life--life in all its fullness" and our vision aligns with this in that through our broad and balanced curriculum offer pupils should leave our school with: strong basic skills of communication, self-management and team-working skills, be able to access the next stage of learning, be useful and caring citizens of our country with pride and awareness of our collective values and with special memories of their time at our school.

Our Mission Statement is "to learn with care, fun, faith and respect".

Ethos Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experiences it offers to all its pupils.

The children will gain skills, knowledge, and understanding enabling them to experience success and to realise their potential in a safe and caring environment. The children will be taught those values and attitudes which will strengthen their respect for themselves and others, enabling them to take their place in society with confidence. The way people behave towards one another plays a vital role in achieving this aim.

Purpose of the Policy

Collective Worship at Wilbarston C of E Primary School takes place in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998. We understand worship to be a special act or occasion where the purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves pupils and staff coming together and participating in a daily gathering. In line with the school's Trust Deed as a Church of England academy, we base our collective worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Anglican Church. However, we aim to conduct our collective worship in a manner that is sensitive and inclusive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of school.



Collective worship contributes significantly to the ethos of our school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can;

- Share common aims and values
- Celebrate achievement and special times
- Explore together the world in which we live
- Develop a community spirit

Aims

We seek to reflect, in our worship of God, the Christian foundation of the school and its care for all who work here.

Our main aims are as follows:

- To encourage the consideration of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- To celebrate the common values and ethos of this school and its' community including the sharing of gifts and talents of all our pupils.
- To demonstrate different types of worship.
- To provide our pupils through an act of structured worship regular opportunities for stillness, reflection and prayer.
- To help children develop self-respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others.
- To help children develop an understanding of the nature and language of Christian worship.
- To promote the ethos of care, respect and enjoyment.

We provide an opportunity for children and staff to worship in a contemporary/traditional Christian style, which is consistent with the traditional beliefs and practices of the Church of England.

We regard collective worship as an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of school life, building on its Christian foundation and to reinforce a moral code as stated in our mission statement and our 'Golden Rules'. It is used to promote the idea of the importance of having a time each day for stillness and reflection, a practice that we hope will sustain them in future years in the wider world, in order to promote their spiritual development.

Collective worship organisation:

Collective worship normally take place in the hall and to the following schedule:

Monday	Mrs Green
Tuesday	Hymn Practise
Wednesday	Clergy/Class based
Thursday	Mrs Curran
Friday	Sharing Assembly with an act of worship



The school welcomes others to lead or take part in collective worship. We encourage pupils and pupil groups to lead and take part in worship e.g. House Captains, house assemblies and Anti-bullying committee members.

Christmas Services, Easter Services, Harvest Festivals and Leavers' Services are normally held at the Parish Church in Wilbarston.

Structure, Content and Approach

Whole school assemblies including the collective act of worship will usually follow parts or the whole of the structure outlined below based on the common worship outline for a service of The Word:

- Opening welcome and response
- Lighting of the candle
- Opening prayer/forgiveness prayer
- Story/discussion or an appropriate follow up activity
- Hymn
- Prayers
- School blessing
- Candle extinguished

We follow the Diocese of Rochester's 3 year planning cycle as the basis of our worship.

<http://www.rdbe.org.uk/christian-distinctiveness/collective-worship/diocesan-worship-materials> All plans are downloaded into our shared staff area for all to access.

Contents include:

- Celebrations of the major festivals of Christianity and other faiths.
- Presentation of Bible stories and stories from other major religions.
- Our Values in education programme theme for the month
- Topical matters from the news or the locality.
- Literature within implicit or explicit religious and moral teaching.
- Appreciation of the natural world and human activity.
- Appreciation of the talents, achievements and work of others and ourselves.
- Visitor representing organisations that complement the work undertaken in the school.
- Prayer in different forms.
- Use of music, including music for entry and exit from the hall, to support singing and for performance.
- Appropriate artefacts and a focal point.
- Participation by adults and children.



Resources

The school has a wide range of artefacts and a wealth of published resources to support the delivery of Collective Worship. Use is also made of assembly material made available on the Internet and stores these as a resource for future occasions. Resources include: The Lion Storyteller Bible and The Lion Bible for Children are used as the regular source of Bible material to share with children. These are in the library for staff to use. Song words and powerpoints/plans are kept electronically on the staff shared drive. Useful websites to be used include;

www.worshipworkshop.co.uk

www.barnabasinschools.org.uk

www.imaginer.co.uk

www.rdbe.org.uk/christian-distinctiveness/collective-worship/diocesan-worship-materials

Evaluation and Review

The Head Teacher, governors and staff will review this policy every three years. Usually the incumbent and a named governor will take the lead in evaluating the effectiveness of practise with pupils and staff.

Withdrawal

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Should any parent make such requests appropriate arrangements will be made for the supervision of the children. Parents who have concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship should contact the Head Teacher.

This Worship Policy should be reviewed every two years or when required.

Approved by the Governing Body 2020

Signed (Chair of Governors)Mrs C Holden

Date: 2020

