



Lyng Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Review Body:	Full Governing Body
Responsibility:	Head teacher
Type of Policy:	Statutory
Review Period:	Annually
Reviewed:	May 2020
Next Review:	May 2022

Introduction.

As a Church of England Primary (Voluntary Controlled VC) school, worship is an affirmation and celebration of our Christian ethos where adults and children have the opportunity to learn, worship and grow in their understanding of God and of themselves. Our collective worship contributes significantly to the sharing of our ethos and values as a church school, and sense of togetherness as a school community.

The legal requirements

- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (section 70) stipulates that pupils of community, foundation or voluntary in England and Wales must take part in a daily act of Collective Worship.
- Schools with a formal faith designation are required to arrange worship in accordance with their trust deed or, if they have no trust deed, in line with the practices of their designated faith. All acts of Collective Worship in Church schools must be Christian in character.
- All registered pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdrawal) must on each school day take part in an act of Collective Worship.
- Collective worship is defined as "a single act of worship for all pupils" or separate acts of worship for groups of pupils.
- Acts of worship should take into account the ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils.
- Pupils can be grouped in various ways for worship such as the whole school, year groups, classes, or other combinations.
- The daily act of Collective Worship will normally take place on the school premises but can hold their Act of Collective Worship elsewhere (e.g. the local Parish Church) on special occasions.
- Responsibility for the arrangement of Collective Worship in a Church of England school rests with the Governing Body in consultation with the Head teacher. Foundation appointed Governors have a particular responsibility because they are appointed to promote, support and uphold the Christian ethos and values of the school. The Head teacher has a responsibility to ensure that all arrangements for Collective Worship are secured. They act as the Collective Worship coordinator.

Aims and Purpose

The aims and purpose of Collective Worship as defined by the Education Reform Act 1988 are as follows:

- To provide an opportunity for the children to worship God
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- To enable children 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
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit
- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes

Collective Worship Practice

We seek to provide acts of Collective Worship that reflect the faith and practice of the Church of England therefore:

- We use the Bible as a sourcebook for inspiration and learning and make pupils familiar with the Lord's Prayer, psalms and other verses of scripture.
- Our Worship contains elements that accord special status to Jesus, his teachings and actions.
- We share with children the Christian belief that all Christians are called to continue Jesus' work of love and compassion for their fellow human beings through the exploration of key Christian Values such as Love, Forgiveness, Respect, Trust, Courage, Justice, Service, Truthfulness.
- We observe the cycle of the Anglican year including celebrations of the major Christian festivals.
- We foster links with our local Church, involving leaders and lay preachers when possible in leading collective worship and providing coherence between worship in church and school and through visits at regular intervals for both collective worship and as part of the Christian calendar.

Social Moral Spiritual Cultural (SMSC)

Collective worship also includes a school's duty to develop pupils spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. This may include learning about cultural traditions and their meaning, listening to stories with a moral message and reflecting on themes such as courage. Worship from themes and events that arise (eg a response to world news event; charity event) are also included.

Collective worship draws our attention to the values the school wishes to develop both as a community and in each individual.

Collective worship contributes to the growth of the person, their character and outlook on life, whatever their academic aptitudes.

Inclusion

We are committed to equality of opportunity regardless of race, gender, cultural or ethnic background, ability or any physical or sensory disability. We therefore aim to make Collective Worship accessible to all and accommodate individual needs appropriately.

Rights and Responsibilities

As established by the 1944 Act and reinforced through this policy, parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. However, having chosen to send their child to Lyng Church of England Primary School, it is hoped that no one will exercise this right. Should such a situation arise, appropriate arrangements would be made in keeping with the requirements of the Act

Planning

- Planning for Collective Worship is led by the Head teacher.
- Plans follow the cycle of the Anglican year, and are underpinned by 'Values for Life' which is based upon Christian Values.
- The Head teacher ensures that leaders and visiting speakers receive copies of the plans. Individuals and groups are responsible for using the plans as a basis for developing their own short-term plans for individual acts of worship.
- Pupils have regular involvement in planning and leading Collective Worship.

Organisation

- An act of Collective Worship is held daily. This may involve the whole school, class or key stage groups.
- Where Collective Worship forms part of an assembly, we ensure that there is a clear distinction between the two elements of gathering.
- The Head teacher and other members of staff together with groups of children take turns to conduct Collective Worship.
- The local vicars and their representatives, take an active role and lead services as well as provide other support.
- We conduct Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way expecting children to behave appropriately. We create a suitable atmosphere by using music, pictures or other artefacts to act as a focal point and hold services at our local churches where appropriate.
- Governors are also welcome to attend acts of worship, to take part in, and monitor Collective Worship.

Resources

- Resources for worship are kept on the resources shelf opposite the HT office.
- The main resources used are the Roots and Fruits resource, (which includes online resources) the Values for Life resource and the 'Flippin' Praise' resource.
- The school has a small budget, determined annually to develop these resources. The school also can make use of a range of free, good quality on-line resources.
- A wall display and worship table in the hall from part of the focus for the Value and collective worship. The table includes the appropriate colour to represent the Christian year, a cross, bible and candle.

Monitoring and Evaluation

We intend to make the criteria for successful worship available to all those who lead it

We aim to develop the monitoring and evaluation of Collective Worship by:

- keeping records of Collective Worship.
- surveying adults and children as to their views on its impact on themselves and the wider community, and expression of the school's Christian ethos.
- routinely observing and monitoring acts of Collective Worship in line with the criteria.

Implementation of Policy

The Head teacher as Collective Worship Coordinator is responsible for this policy.

Its implementation is the responsibility of all those planning and leading Collective Worship.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years.