



Cranborne

Church of England
First School and Nursery

Love, Learn, Fly

Do Everything in Love 1 Corinthians 16:14

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Collective Worship Policy

This policy is an agreed statement of the values and aims of collective worship at Cranborne CE First School and Nursery. Collective worship is valued as a central aspect of the life of our church school, through which children grow spiritually, emotionally, morally and culturally.

There must be a daily act of collective worship in all maintained schools for all children, other than those in a nursery class or a nursery school. This can take place at any time in the school day and in any groupings. Collective worship in a Church of England School must be in accordance with the tenets and practices of the Church of England. In other words, the law on collective worship that applies in a community school, "that it should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character", is not relevant. Collective worship in our school is distinctly Christian and reflects Anglican traditions.

The academy standards and ethos committee of this school have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for collective worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact of collective worship on the school community in consultation with the headteacher.

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do. We want to create a school in which everyone flourishes, which is firmly rooted in our Christian values of Love, Wisdom and Hope.

As a church school, our vision is deeply Christian and underpinned by this verse from the Bible: **'Do Everything in Love'** which is found in **1 Corinthians 16:14**. This is taken from the letter the Apostle Paul wrote to the church in Corinth where he gave instructions for living God's way. In the last few lines of his letter, Paul reminds us that all our actions, however big or small, should be an expression of our love for others.

We have three core values that underpin all that we do;

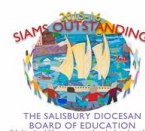
Love

Through our value of love, we encourage our children to love one another as God loves us. By practising forgiveness and reconciliation, we enable all to live well together and to flourish.

'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.' John 13:34



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Wisdom

The Bible talks of wisdom as a gift from God. We teach our children that wisdom is not just about how intelligent someone is; it is about knowing right from wrong, remembering past experiences and learning from them, making the right choices, even in challenging situations and being prepared to listen to the advice of others.

'If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.' James 1:5

Hope

Hope is revealed through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. This inspires us as we equip our children with the skills, passion and resilience, to achieve goals, giving them confidence as they 'fly' from Cranborne First School and journey through life.

'And so, Lord, where do I put my hope? My hope is in you.' Psalm 39:7

Collective worship is central to the life of our school and is the main platform for exploring our school's vision and associated values. It is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

Collective worship in our Church school aims to enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. We aim for collective worship to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and based upon Christian teaching and values. It aims to give opportunities for all present to grow spiritually, whatever their personal philosophy, or whether or not they come from a faith background.

Through collective worship, children will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. This will include being invited to participate in prayer, reading and reflection from the Bible, liturgy and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Children will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in Christian values such as love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian calendar.

Collective worship has a pivotal place in the life of our school. It aims to:

- Be the central vehicle by which the school's vision is unpacked and explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Provide an experience that will offer opportunities for those present to grow spiritually as well as to observe and respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians, or to find their own spiritual path. This will always be

invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of different faiths and none to be present and to engage with integrity. It aims to give children and young people the opportunity to develop their own philosophy and moral compass.

- Support those present in the development of their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief.
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.
- Help all present to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer and reflection. It helps children and young people to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Christian Church's year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- Facilitate a deeper understanding of the Christian story narrative, from creation to the present day
- To appreciate that people, cultures and beliefs differ and to demonstrate respect, tolerance and generosity towards them
- To develop young children's sense of self-worth and to provide opportunities to celebrate achievements.
- To develop a caring attitude to others and a sense of community and loyalty.
- To provide opportunities for children to plan, lead, contribute to, monitor and evaluate collective worship.
- To invite clergy of the parish, other lay members of the parish and other Christian leaders in the community [as are acceptable to the parish church] to lead collective worship and build the parish-school link.
- Give opportunities to explore a variety of ways of praying, giving those present the chance to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well know Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes and home time.
- Offer opportunities to all present to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of the local church community. Children will be at the centre of this process taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading collective worship.
- Ensure that materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to make sure children understand the work of Christians and the church locally, nationally and globally and how this reflects the teachings of the Bible and the example of Jesus

How collective worship is organised

We work closely with Reverend Robert Simpson our Rector at our local church, St Mary and St Bartholomew in Cranborne. We continue to learn from the 'Open the Book' team of parishioners who tell Bible Stories through drama, which the children greatly enjoy and benefit from Ian Carr's

ministry to us from the Counties Organisation and Keith Jewell through PACE (Programme for Applied Christian Education).

The week follows a pattern which includes a class as well as whole school worship. Each Friday we enjoy a celebration worship when we celebrate achievement both in and out of school, and reinforce the message that our best efforts give glory to God. Stickers and certificates reward learning progress, good learning dispositions and demonstrating our Christian values of love, wisdom and hope. We celebrate birthdays on whichever day of the week they fall.

We want our children to learn and experience what it means to worship. We acknowledge that each one of us, whether child or adult, is travelling our own spiritual journey. We offer the opportunity to find a point of peace and quiet in the day where we can explore ideas, and learn from the examples of Christian teachings and aspects of other faiths and cultures how we can best live our lives. We use a variety of stories, images, music, poetry, songs and drama to convey meanings and messages. We know that all individuals are equally important and valued in God's sight. Our worship is inclusive and delivered so everyone present feels included, whilst respecting the integrity of the different families and backgrounds we serve. The themes we cover supplement R.E. teaching and include our values, the Scriptures and the Church Year.

We are proud to be a school with a distinctive church ethos. We seek to work with our Church to serve our community, to cherish and nurture everyone in our School and Church families.

The right of withdrawal

We recognise that in our school there are children whose families are members of another faith, or who hold a non-religious worldview. Part of the distinctively Christian nature of Church of England Schools is that we aim to be as hospitable and inclusive to all in the community we serve. As collective worship occupies such a central place in the life of our Church school, this is made clear on induction, and it is hoped that parents will be making a specific choice of the school knowing that the distinctive ethos will determine a Christian tradition within collective worship. By withdrawing from collective worship, it does not mean that children will be exempt from the Christian ethos of our setting, as this underpins our teaching, learning and relationships.

The 1944 and 1988 Education Acts state that parents have a legal right to withdraw their child from acts of worship. If a parent wishes to make a request for their child to be withdrawn from collective worship, we ask that they meet with the headteacher to discuss their concerns and requirements.

Staff development and training

We ensure that our staff receive appropriate training and opportunities for professional development, both as individuals and as groups or teams. This is provided through Church School Flourishing CPL and through the SDBE.

Monitoring and evaluation

- Through foundation governors
- Through pupil and teacher feedback
- Through worship times
- Through the worship team
- Through parent surveys
- Through Church School Flourishing Visits
- Through SIAMS inspections and continued professional development

Monitoring and evaluating the impact of worship includes children, staff, foundation governors and visiting clergy.