

# Worlingham CEVC Primary School



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Due consideration has been given to all children/adults/stakeholders with regard to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

Headteacher: Mrs Holly Marchand

School No. 935 3111

Date approved:	30.04.2024
Name of Committee:	Curriculum and Ethos
Chair of Committee signature:	<i>Peter Hobbs</i>
Date of next review:	Summer 2025

# Worlingham CEVC Primary School

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The spiritual and moral aspects of educating the whole child are central to the ethos of Worlingham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School. Christian beliefs and teachings are absolutely central to this ethos, alongside celebrating the diversity of other beliefs and faiths.

Acts of Collective Worship are a crucial part of our daily routine in our school, giving time for reflection, prayer and development of our ethos in all its aspects.

The purpose of this policy is to give guidance and support as well as explaining our aims for Collective Worship in our school.

### **The aims of Collective Worship at Worlingham CEVC Primary School**

We aim to provide daily acts of Collective Worship that will develop the children's understanding of:

- The world around them.
- The features of a Christian community and faith and also to develop the children's spiritual and moral growth through relevant stories and ideas.

Worship also provides opportunities for quiet reflection, thanksgiving, prayer, worshipping God and time for the children to develop their own ideas and beliefs through stories, discussions, music, poetry, drama and dance.

Collective Worship is also a time to develop a sense of awe and wonder as well as citizenship and being part of a community, which is caring and supportive.

### **Legal requirements for Collective Worship**

The 1988 education Act requires schools to ensure that the following happens:

- All pupils take part in an act of Collective Worship every day.
- Acts of worship are organised in ways which include all children- for example whole school, Key stage and class.
- The act of worship takes place on school premises and any that take place elsewhere, for example, church, are additional to this.
- The Governing Body and specifically the Foundation Governors are responsible for ensuring that the legal requirements for Collective Worship are met.
- As a Church school, the worship will be broadly Christian in character.
- All staff, including the Headteacher have the legal right to withdraw from the Act of Collective Worship. The Headteacher remains responsible for ensuring that the Act takes place and is led by a suitable person.
- All parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship, wholly or partially. The school's responsibility for the child's health and safety is still paramount and alternative arrangements need to be made.

### **The organisation of Collective Worship at Worlingham CEVC Primary School**

There is an act of Collective Worship every day as follows:

<b>Monday</b>	-	9.10 am: Whole school, taken by either Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher Class Teacher or a class based on termly theme.
<b>Tuesday</b>	-	9.10 am: Whole school hymn practise which includes a time for reflection.
<b>Wednesday</b>	-	9.10 am: Class or Key Stage Collective Worship based on the

Collective Worship whole school theme from the school Vision including time for reflection.

- Thursday** - 9.10 am: Whole school Collective Worship based on whole school theme from the school Vision or Open the Book including time for reflection.
- Friday** - 9.10 am: Whole school celebration assembly, taken by the Headteacher, or Deputy Headteacher. Includes a time for reflection and prayer. This assembly also includes the opportunity for children to share their achievements outside of school.

All Collective Worship take place in the school hall, with the exception of the class Worship which take place in the classrooms. Open the Book Worship sessions are led by the local ministry team. These sessions follow significant events on the Christian calendar and often involve the children to participate in the story telling.

Every term we visit the church and hold Collective Worship there, as follows;

- Autumn term - Christmas  
Spring term - Easter  
Summer term - End of Year Assembly

Themes are decided on a half termly basis for Collective Worship. Themes are based on our School Vision and values, current issues within school, festivals, special days, human values as well as themes suggested by children, collated from pupil surveys.

**An Act of Collective Worship** always begins with music playing for the children to listen to when they come into the hall. The children are expected to enter and sit in silence. The children know that this is a time for them to sit and think. What they think about is entirely their decision.

How the rest of the Collective Worship is organised is at the discretion of the person leading it, but generally takes the form of a story or discussion and sharing of information, often involving the children, followed by a period of reflection, time of prayer and then a hymn or song.

Music is played at the end of the Assembly and the children are expected to sit in silence until it is their turn to leave the hall, which they also do in silence. The children know that Collective Worship time is a time to listen and think as well as take part and they are expected to behave in an appropriate manner.

Staff are expected to attend Collective Worship, other than in exceptional circumstances, and to set an appropriate example to the children, and to respect the quiet time at the beginning and end of the Collective Worship.

### **Planning and Themes**

A list of themes for each half term is planned and posted on the staff room notice board. There is also a rota for those leading Collective Worship displayed in the staff room. The Headteacher keeps a file of all Collective Worship. Collective Worship usually last about 15 minutes in all. Jigsaw assemblies are held at the start of each half term for the whole school.

### **Withdrawal**

Parents are advised of their right to withdraw children from Collective Worship acts in the school brochure. Any child who does not attend Collective Worship for this reason must be provided with an alternative activity and appropriate supervision must be organised. These to launch the new theme for the whole school for that half term.

**Ofsted**

As a Voluntary Controlled Church of England school, we are inspected separately for Collective Worship and receive a written report. A copy of our latest inspection report, which took place in February 2019 is available at the school office.

## WORLINGHAM CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### **SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT TO ACCOMPANY POLICY DOCUMENTS**

Throughout this policy runs our commitment to safeguarding the wellbeing of all our pupils at Worlingham CEVC Primary School. The values, beliefs and ethos of Worlingham Primary School are shared by all members of staff and the adherence to the guidance as stated in the school's Safeguarding Policy is of paramount importance.

The wellbeing and safety of pupils has a positive impact on their attendance, behaviour, their own Health and Safety, learning within the school environment as well as on educational visits.

Throughout the curriculum children are taught how to manage risk and how to keep themselves safe. The children know that if they need help they can talk to a member of staff at school. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe whilst using ICT equipment and are instructed to report any inappropriate material to the member of staff leading the session.

Children who have an identified SEN which creates difficulties with communication may need additional support in expressing concerns to a member of staff. Staff will need to follow the guidance in the safeguarding policy when dealing with a disclosure, taking into account the ability of the individual.

A copy of the Safeguarding policy can be found on the school website, in the Headteacher's office and also the staff room. This policy provides comprehensive detail in identifying types of abuse and the procedures that need to be followed.

Within the Safeguarding Policy is a section on The Prevent Duty and what it means for our School.