



St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Our Vision:

At St Bartholomew's we provide a gate way of discovery through our diverse curriculum and nurture global disciples who positively impact God's gift to us – the world. Our curriculum enables our learners to recognise their place in the wider world by enabling them to understand their place in Pinchbeck West; the importance and value of where they live. It aims to develop agents of change who are taught to protect the environment, solve problems to ensure society is a better place and take responsibility for their actions to make the future a somewhere far improved from where it is. There is clear focus on developing a rich vocabulary through a text centred approach and providing learners with the opportunity to independently gain powerful knowledge to ensure their future success. Through boundless forgiveness, compassion and a safe learning environment our children can Let their Light Shine (Matthew 5:16). We learn to love responsibly by developing the skills and knowledge needed under God's spiritual counsel, bringing light to all those around us. We are beacons of hope for our communities guided by God's spirit and love.

Community - everyone is treated with dignity through an ethos of respect for all. Care is given to our environments. This spirit permeates our daily lives as we walk side by side together following in God's footsteps.

Hope - every person is guided to fulfil their hopes and aspirations, enabling them to reach their full potential. We place no ceiling on expectations. Our growth mind-set helps us to accept where we are, understand barriers and with hope and faith overcome and succeed.

Wisdom - we give our children exceptional experiences, everlasting knowledge and equip them with the skills needed to make good judgements for the greater good, guided by God's patience and love.

Dignity - we radiate belief which generates self-worth in all who come through our doors. Everyone is reminded daily of their worth and significance in our community.

This policy has been adopted by the Headteacher / Governors in consultation with the RE Subject Leader and teaching staff at St Bartholomew's CE Primary School.

This policy should be read in conjunction with other policies in school including: SMSC, PSHE, Teaching and Learning, Assessment, Marking and Feedback and other curriculum policies.

Aims and Purpose

Our aims and purpose of Collective Worship are:

- to provide an invitational opportunity for children to worship God;
- to provide an opportunity for children to consider the purpose and the meaning of life;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;

- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to provide an opportunity for calm reflection. 1.2

St Bartholomew's CE Primary School is a maintained school and in line with our Trust Deed we ensure that "The daily act of collective worship shall include religious education consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England and use should be made, within the provisions of the Education Acts of the time being in force, of the Parish Church, both for occasional acts of worship and for religious education".

Collective Worship

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God with some time for personal reflection. Collective Worship involves members of the school coming together to worship, whether this be as a class, whole school and inviting parents, carers and members of the community to join us.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that Collective Worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian church. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

Responsibility

Collective Worship is the responsibility of the Head Teacher, Foundation Governors and the Subject Leader.

Entitlement

It is an expectation that everyone in our community is given the opportunity to participate in our acts of Worship. However, parents may request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents are not required to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Where parents ask to remove children from whole school church services, school will discuss appropriate supervision arrangements to parents.

Organisation

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school and this happens at the end of the school day. It will include prayer, Biblical quotes, singing, a quiet reflection. Collective worship may also include music, stories, shared experiences, readings from sacred writings and celebrations.

We conduct worship in a dignified and respectful way. Our children are aware that worship may be a time of calm reflection. They are also aware that worship encompasses times of excitement and celebration. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in a calm and reflective manner. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully and participate fully. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, candles and other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

The Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and all members of teaching staff conduct Collective Worship daily, with visitors invited into school to celebrate with us where possible.

We take our themes for worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes for our worship reflect and build upon topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum, as well as whole school initiatives. In addition to this, our Core Values are explored throughout each short term linked directly to our Vision and how we can live and breathe this.

Our Collective Worships reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in acts of worship by showing their work to the other children and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Collective Worships offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play a very important part in promoting the ethos of our school that all children are valued and their achievements recognised.

We invite parents to collective worship throughout the year both in school and services held at St Bartholomew's Church. We always experience excellent attendance, thus promoting the community spirit of our school and practically demonstrating the way in which home and school, work together to support the achievements of our children.

Daily Acts of Worship

Monday: Whole School Collective Worship - Themed / Core Values / Biblical

Tuesday: Whole School Collective Worship – Themed / Core Values / Biblical

Wednesday: Class Worship – Protected Characteristics and British Values

Thursday: Whole School Collective Worship – Songs of Praise

Friday: Whole School Collective Worship and Celebration of children's achievements

Annual Events

EYFS/KS1 Nativity – School Hall

Whole School Christingle and Carols Service – Parish Church

Reception Welcome Service – Parish Church

Whole School Harvest Festival Celebration – Parish Church

Whole School Remembrance Service – Parish Church Memorial

Whole School Easter Service – Parish Church

Whole School Leavers' Service – School Hall

Parents, Carers and the local community are invited to these events.

St Bartholomew's CE Primary School fosters and nurtures close links with St Bartholomew's Church, West Pinchbeck. The church is regularly used for services, celebrations and we attend Thirsty on a Thursday with our local community to give the children an opportunity to celebrate their achievements.

We also provide opportunities to worship with children from other church schools by attending services virtually where possible.

Collective Worship Policy Review

This policy is reviewed by the Head teacher, staff and Governors in accordance with St Bartholomew's CE Primary School's Policy and Review Cycle for approval by the Full Governing Body, every 3 years.

Written by: C Cox

Amended: October 2019

Reviewed: February 2022

Review Date: July 2025