



## The Federation of St Giles and St John Collective Worship Policy



### Rationale

Collective worship makes a unique and valuable contribution to school life. Worship is central to the ethos of both schools. It is an area of school life which draws strongly from the Trust Deed.

The Collective Worship Policy is consistent with the philosophy and aims of our schools.

### Definition of Collective Worship

- Collective Worship is a time when the whole school meets together to consider and reflect on themes, Bible stories and topical issues. It offers all pupils and adults an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' and staff's spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development. All children and staff should be treated equally and the Collective Worship policy applies to all children and staff regardless of their race, gender, belief or disability.

### Aims

- ❖ To develop a sense of community and Christian values
- ❖ To explore together the world we live in
- ❖ To celebrate achievement and special times
- ❖ To foster a thought-provoking and challenging atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response
- ❖ To develop empathy and understanding
- ❖ To provide opportunities for children to reflect on their life experiences and beliefs
- ❖ To provide opportunities to enjoy praise, prayer, reflection, meditation and silence
- ❖ To provide an atmosphere in which God and faith can be explained
- ❖ To provide opportunities to experience ceremony within Christianity
- ❖ To provide opportunities to experience Christian worship
- ❖ To develop children's understanding of Bible and other religious stories

### To achieve these aims:

- ❖ **Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time.**

However, in Farlow C. of E. Primary School and Kinlet C. of E. Primary School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the

experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

- ❖ **A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are used in acts of Collective Worship.**

Leaders choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

- ❖ **The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages and backgrounds of all pupils.**

Termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly planning and recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

- ❖ **The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice.**

To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

- ❖ **Time is allocated for reflection and children are invited to take ownership of the prayers said by joining in with Amen.**

A candle and cross are organized by the monitors and act as a focal point for daily worship:

- ❖ **Children are invited to contribute their own reflections and prayers.**
- ❖ **The headteacher, teaching staff, members of local clergy and members of the local community form the Worship Team.**

The role of the team will be to plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

- **Children take part in and lead some worship sessions.**
- **Collective Worship takes place in one of the classrooms.**

- We have a short reflection time every week in Forest School sessions at Farlow School.
- Worship in our schools is inclusive, invitational, and inspiring.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate. Children sit in a manner which is suitable for that day's presentation.

**Plan for the organisation of collective worship at Farlow C. of E. Primary School and Kinlet C. of E, Primary School**

Day	Type of worship	Time of day	Led by
Monday	Whole school collective worship	9:00 at Kinlet 10:15 at Farlow	Headteacher at Kinlet. Lead teacher at Farlow or the children
Tuesday	Whole school/visitor	9:00 at Kinlet 10:15 at Farlow	Member of local clergy or headteacher or lead teacher.
Wednesday	Open the Book at Farlow. Whole school collective worship	9:00 at both schools	Lead teacher at Kinlet. Open the Book team at Farlow
Thursday	Whole school collective worship	9:00 at Kinlet 10:15 at Farlow	Lead teacher at Kinlet Headteacher at Farlow
Friday	Sharing assembly	9:00 at both schools	Acorn or Oak class at Kinlet Class 1 or Class 2 at Farlow

- ❖ Services and collective worship are held at St. Giles' Church Farlow, and at St. John the Baptist Church, Kinlet.

At special festival times and to celebrate the end of the school year in the summer term, services are held in the church. The children play a big part in planning and leading these services.

## Worship themes

Term	Christian values and special days Year A		Christian Values and special days Year B	
Autumn	Generosity Thankfulness Compassion	Harvest All Souls All Saints Remembrance Anti-bullying week Advent Christmas	Thankfulness Trust	Harvest All Souls All Saints Remembrance Anti-bullying week Advent Christmas
Spring	Courage Forgiveness	Lent Easter	Perseverance Justice	Lent Easter
Summer	Friendship Respect	Pentecost Trinity	Service Truthfulness	Pentecost Trinity

### ❖ **Withdrawal**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.

### **Success criteria**

***At Farlow C.E. Primary School and Kinlet C.E. Primary School, the children:***

- ❖ develop a sense of community and Christian values
- ❖ explore the world around them together
- ❖ celebrate achievement and special times
- ❖ take part in spiritual reflection and response, thanks to a thought-provoking and challenging atmosphere.
- ❖ develop empathy and understanding
- ❖ reflect on their life experiences and beliefs
- ❖ have opportunities to enjoy praise, prayer, reflection, meditation and silence
- ❖ worship in an environment where God and faith can be explained
- ❖ have opportunities to experience ceremony within Christianity
- ❖ Have opportunities to experience Christian worship
- ❖ Develop their understanding of Bible and other religious stories

## Monitoring and evaluation

- ❖ The Foundation Governors, staff and children will be involved in reviewing this document and evaluating the impact of Collective Worship.
- ❖ The children will be consulted to find out their views on Collective Worship and be involved in the delivery of some Worship themes.
- ❖ Staff development opportunities will be planned in the rolling SDP cycle or as requested.

## Resources

- ❖ Margaret Cooling assembly themes
- ❖ Lion storyteller Bible
- ❖ Open the Book resources
- ❖ Range of story books linked to themes and Christian values
- ❖ Imaginor resources-roots and fruits 1 and 2
- ❖ Jack in the Box
- ❖ Oscar out of the box
- ❖ Home school values
- ❖ Pause to reflect on values
- ❖ Jumping fish resources
- ❖ Picture news

Policy prepared by:	Alison Davies and Rachel Smith- October 2021
Agreed by staff on:	October 2021
Adopted by Governing Body on:	October 2021
Reviewed:	September 2025