



St George's Beneficial CE Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Date of Policy January 2024

Review Date January 2026

Vision

Collective Worship in our school is based upon the foundations and the principles of the Church of England. We work in partnership with St. George's Church and Portsmouth Cathedral to develop the religious characteristics of the Church of England in our school. As a church school we must fulfil two legal requirements for Collective Worship:

- A daily Act of Worship for all pupils
- Collective worship in our school must be in accordance with the school's trust deed.

This policy should be read in conjunction with all school policies but especially equality and teaching and learning.

Aims

- To enable participants to develop an understanding of Jesus Christ and a Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- To place ourselves in the presence of God
- To develop a sense of awe and wonder
- To see worship as relevant to everyday life
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils
- To strengthen the community of the school
- To prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and the experiences of life
- To encounter commitment
- To appreciate that people differ and should be approached in a spirit of openness and respect
- To link with the school's curriculum and, in particular, with the RE curriculum
- To provide a daily Act of Worship for all pupils as required in law

The school will endeavour to meet these aims by: -

- Creating a sense of occasion and endeavouring to make it transformational
- Providing opportunities for thought and creative silence in order to encourage reflection
- Providing a variety of activities in which people can share responses

- Using appropriate language and explanations to enable pupils to understand the content
- Allowing and valuing individual responses
- Involving all members of the school community at some time
- Involving members of the wider community as appropriate
- Introducing children to some aspects of the Church of England
- Liturgical tradition – familiarisation with Church – lighting candles for acts of collective worship – using the Lord’s Prayer and the School Prayer
- Teaching and strengthening commonly held values
- Linking with RE and other curricular planning including Talk For Writing Stories.
- Involving all contributors in planning as appropriate
- Nominating one member of staff to take responsibility for implementing and researching this policy in liaison with the headteacher.

The school recognises the distinction between learning a prayer and praying a prayer. Children will never be coerced or forced to pray. Those leading collective worship will use phrases like. “Join with me if you wish in”

Content:

We will fulfil our obligations with

- The Headteacher providing long term planning for collective worship, outlining the themes to be explored and the Bible stories to be told linked with the Big Question (published in three cycles).
- The Collective Worship lead and headteacher will arrange for external speakers where appropriate.
- a rolling programme that ensures interest; the retelling of stories from the Bible; coverage of a broad spectrum of material - ensuring that duplication does not occur.
- local resources: staff, children, governors, local vicars, parents and members of the community – to be used where appropriate.
- important celebrations within the Christian liturgical calendar as part of the annual programme.
- opportunities to participate in different types of worship e.g. prayer, praise, silence, song , sense of community, common values, power of the spoken word, music and ritual.
- variety in the form of expression, e.g. art, music, drama, story etc.
- collective worship experiences which are relevant to the age, aptitude and background of the children.
- weekly opportunities for children to respond to ‘Big Questions’ (verbally, dramatically, musically and in written/drawn form).
- commitment to participate fully in a bi-annual review of our programmes, teaching, Acts of Worship and coverage.

Responsibilities

- The Headteacher is responsible for the co-ordination of the programme.
- The Senior Team are responsible for organising and arranging KS assemblies when these take place.
- Class teachers are responsible for organising and arranging their own Whole School Collective Worship both individual and class led. Additionally, where a Collective Act of Worship is delivered to a key stage, class teachers will take responsibility for leading this.

- Class teachers are responsible for ensuring that their class have taken part in a daily act of Collective Worship, specifically when Whole School Collective Worship has been cancelled.
 - Parents have a right to withdraw a child from collective worship without giving a reason. A parent wishing to exercise this right should be asked to detail the elements of worship from which the child is to be withdrawn and whether notice of such elements is required and to discuss the practical implications of withdrawal with the headteacher.
- The staff also have a right to withdraw from collective worship.

Pupil involvement with Collective Worship

Monday – Lead and introduction to theme - music monitors & worship leads in prayer

Tuesday – Big Question in classes - lead by worship leads

Wednesday – Collective Worship/RE Lead key days and liturgical calendar - music monitors and interaction of all

Thursday – Church/cathedral lead - music monitors and interaction of all

Friday – Celebration of values, spirituality and learning - music monitors and interaction of all

Links needed in practice

Heart Smart

Talk for writing

Religious stories, prayers & poems

British values

Festivals

Understanding Christianity

All collective worship will take into account the best practice in equal opportunities for staff and pupils.

Policy agreed: January 2024

Review Date: January 2026

Monitored by: Headteacher and Governors

Collective Worship Guidelines

As with any effective lesson Collective worship should be given using a variety of teaching styles that engage and challenge. Collective Worship should include some of the following ingredients:

Use of the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning,
Use content from Heart Smart programme
Reflect on symbols of Christianity and their use in worship – i.e. candles as a visual focus for prayer,
Observing the religious cycle within the Christian calendar,
Sharing and celebrating shared values and beliefs of other faiths,
An opportunity for prayer and reflection,
Provide an opportunity to discover the value of meditation and silence,
A talk or story, including a Talk For Writing example,
The reading of a short passage from scripture,
Use of music to create a worshipful atmosphere,
Singing of hymns and or appropriate songs,
Use of poetry, art, media to provoke thoughtful responses,
Drama, role-play and dance,
Topical issues of a school, local, national or international nature that relate to Christian values.

Daily Acts of Collective Worship takes place daily according to the following pattern:

Monday

9.00 - 9.20 a.m.

Lead assembly - whole school in the hall (church for Harvest, Easter, Advent). This is led by Headteacher or Senior Management Team.

Tuesday

9.00 - 9.20 a.m.

Big Question collective worship - in classes led by worship leaders. Further focus on the theme introduced on Monday.

Wednesday

9.00 - 9.20 a.m.

SMSC, British values, national days and liturgical calendar foci led by RE and Collective Worship.

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Thursday

9.00 - 9.20 a.m.

Collective Worship led by the Church

Friday

9.00 - 9.20 a.m.

Celebration of Christian values, spirituality and learning successes led by SLT.

Children of other faiths

Children of other faiths are always made welcome and we would hope they would be happy to join the school in collective worship. Our LSA with responsibility for bilingual support joins us for collective worship and will lead prayers with Muslim children where appropriate

Prayers

The school prayer, or The Lord's Prayer, are used regularly

Children are encouraged to make up and use their own prayers.

Children are invited to consider the theme, or an aspect of the collective worship, and to ask for God's help, or to give thanks, as appropriate.

Silence and time for reflection are important in this context.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, in heaven
Hallowed be Your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the Power and the Glory are yours.
Now and forever
Amen.

The School Prayer

Loving God,
Through courage, hope and respect
Help us to do the best we can do with the gifts you have given us,
To make the world a better place.
Amen

Collective worship timetable

Week	Liturgical Week	Sunday Readings	Focus/Reflection	Wednesday whole school worship theme (subject to change)
Week 1	13 th Sunday After Trinity	Song of Solomon: 2.8-13 James 1:17-End Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23	Jesus is saying our hearts are meant to be filled up with and overflow with God's Holy spirit and <i>perfect</i> love. Then, because our hearts are overflowing with God's love, there's no room in us for the fear that leads to lying, stealing, and cheating.	National Fight Procrastination Day -6 th MIRROR - SELF
Week 2	14 th Sunday After Trinity	James 2:1-10 [11-13], 14-17 Mark 7:24-End	When we choose to learn from Jesus how to pay attention to God, one of the things we learn to do is to keep asking and listening to God for help even in busy moments, just like Jesus did in today's story.	Emergency Services Day – 9 th DOOR - OTHERS
Week 3	15 th Sunday After Trinity	Proverbs 1:20-33 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-End	The more we learn about Jesus and from Jesus, the more we learn how to receive and share God's love, just like Jesus did.	World Cleanup Day -21 st WINDOW - BEAUTY
Week 4	16 th Sunday After Trinity	Proverbs 31:10-End James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37	When we know we need God's help, then we are much better at accepting God's help.	International Day of Sign Language – 23 rd
Week 5	17 th Sunday After Trinity Harvest	Joel 2:21-27 1 Timothy 2:1-7 or 6:6-10 Matthew 6:25-33	Worry steals our peace and joy and affects every area of our lives. For example, many health problems are caused in part by worry and stress. If we trust God, worry will be replaced by faith and the knowledge that God will provide for us.	World Heart Day -29 th Hope, courage
Week 6	18 th Sunday After Trinity	Job 1:1, 2:1-10 Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	We can choose to pay attention to and receive God's love (instead of paying attention to the actions of others) and then because we are filled with God's love, we have that love to share with the people around us.	World Homeless Day - 10 th Hope
Week 7	19 th Sunday After Trinity	Job 23:1-9, 16-End Mark 10:17-31	In order to receive God's help, we sometimes have to let go of something else. Trust in God. He will love us and guide us each day of our lives.	Teresa of Avila – 15 th CANDLE - BEYOND
Week 8	20 th Sunday after Trinity	Job 38:1-7, [34-End] Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45	Jesus explains that He is here to help others and we should do the same.	World Energy Saving Day -21 st Hope
Week 9	All Saints Day	Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34	Jesus told us that the law was to love God and to love your neighbour.	All Saints Day / St Therese MIRROR - SELF
Week 10	3 rd Sunday Before Advent	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Hebrews 9:24-End Mark 1:14-20	Following Jesus is not always easy, but it is worth it.	Armistice Day – 11 th Hope

Week 11	2 nd Sunday Before Advent/ Remembrance	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10:11-14, [15-18], 19-25 Mark 13:1-8	Focusing on the Bible helps us to know God's heart, and recognize we can trust Him.	Universal Children's Day – 20 th
Week 12	Christ The King	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37	Jesus is not a king who tells people to do things for Him. Instead, Jesus is the kind of king who gives – He shares God's love, forgiveness, and healing with others.	National Illustration Day – 29 th
Week 13	1 st Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-End Luke 21:25-36	Like leaves appearing in spring, be alert and watch for signs that tell the Son of Man is going to appear.	St Andrew's Day – 30 th CANDLE - BEYOND
Week 14	2 nd Sunday of Advent	Baruch 5 or Malachi 3:1-4 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	John the Baptist had a special mission from God. He was to prepare the way for Jesus by telling people to turn away from their sins and be baptised.	Immaculate Conception Day – 8 th CANDLE - BEYOND
Week 15	3 rd Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14-End Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18	As Christians, it's essential to live in a way that shows others who we are. We want to not only call ourselves Christians, but act like it by demonstrating love and sharing with others.	Go Carolling Day – 20 th
Week 16	Christmas 2	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:[1-9] 10-18	When we fill up on the good stuff that Jesus offers us, then we will be able to offer that good stuff to other people just like Jesus did.	Epiphany -6th
Week 17	Baptism Of Christ	Isaiah 43:1-7 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	Jesus invites people to follow him and learn how to do the same thing – how to make room in their lives for God's Holy Spirit.	Quitters Day (check year date) Courage, hope MIRROR - SELF
Week 18	Epiphany 2	Isaiah 62:1-5 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11	Today's story can help us remember that not only has God given us many gifts...but, as we pay attention to God, God will help us see how to use those gifts better than we ever could do so on our own.	The Conversion of Paul – 25 th MIRROR - SELF
Week 19	Epiphany 3	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21	Jesus invites us to follow him and learn from him how to be like him.	Chinese New Year 29 th DOOR - OTHERS
Week 19 B	Epiphany 4	Ezekiel 43:27 - 44:4 1 Corinthians 13 Luke 2:22-40	Even though Jesus walked away, Jesus didn't <i>quit</i> doing what he had been doing. Just like you don't quit when something is difficult, Jesus didn't quit sharing God's love, healing, and forgiveness.	Candlemas 2 nd
Week 20	Lent 1	Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-End Mark 1:9-15	By being baptized, Jesus is saying, "I promise to make God the centre of my life. I will make this promise happen by paying attention to God all of the time."	Shrove Tuesday 13 th Feb / Ash Wednesday 14 th Feb beginning of Lent CANDLE - SPIRITUAL
Week 21	Lent 2	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-End Mark 8:31-End	When we keep following Jesus and learning from Jesus how to pay attention to God, then we will be better able to live God's better way and share the results of that better way with those around us.	National Lego day 28 th (Community, collaboration) Holocaust Remembrance 27 th

Week 22	Lent 3	Exodus 20:1-17 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22	This reading shows the importance of respecting not only the church, but our own bodies and lives as instruments to worship God.	St David's Day 1 st 'Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do.'
Week 23	Lent 4	Numbers 21:4-9 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21	When we look to Jesus and learn about God from Jesus, then we too will shine with God's love and light.	Mothering Sunday 10 th – Respect Comic Relief 15 th WINDOW – BEAUTY
Week 24	Lent 5/ Passiontide	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	Jesus wants his disciples to think about his life, death, and resurrection in the same way they would think about a seed turning into a plant.	St Patrick's Day 17 th – Courage
Week 25	Holy Week	Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 14:1-End or Mark 15:1-39 [40-End]	The cross reminds us to be grateful for His love and for the Good News that He brought to all people.	Oscar Romero Saints Day 24 th - Hope
Week 26	Easter 3	Acts 3:12-19† 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48	God's love for us is like the best and deepest kind of love a mother or a father has for their children. We are called the "children of God and that is what we are."	World Art Day 15 th – strengths and talents MIRROR - SELF
Week 27	Easter 4	Acts 4:5-12† 1 John 3:16-end John 10:11-18	God raised Jesus up on the cross and all we have to do is to look to Jesus. We look to Jesus and we are saved. Starting over can be scary, when we trust God to help us rebuild, what happens next will be better than anything that happened before.	St Georges Day 23 rd – Courage Month of the Military Child (April) DOOR - OTHERS
Week 28	Easter 5	Acts 8:26-end† 1 John 4:7-end John 15:1-8	Love is of God; love is from God and He has demonstrated His love toward humanity when He sent his Son into the world, that we might live through him. God doesn't just love. God doesn't just have love. God isn't just in love with us. Loving is not just a part of Him. God is love.	May Day 1 st Joy, hope and love
Week 29	Easter 6	Acts 10:44 - end† 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	The Bible teaches us that the same is expected as part of our families as as part of the family of God. We all know what God has done for us. That is great. But we also know that there are some commandments that God gave us to keep. It is very important that we keep doing the things that God told us to do, like loving our God and loving our neighbour.	World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 8 th - "I give with joy, and the joy I give is a reward." DOOR - OTHERS
Week 30	Sunday after Ascension Day	Acts 1:15-17, 21-end† 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	God's message is love. As we read the Bible and pray, we learn about God's love and accept that God's testimony is true. His words are something we can count on. They are true. Believe it.	International Nurses Day – 12 th (World Family Dr Day 19 th) Respect Courage DOOR - OTHERS
Week 31	Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21† Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15	The Holy Spirit is a beautiful and powerful part of who God is. You will receive God's power when the Holy Spirit comes to you.	World Bee Day 20 th – responsibility for living things and the impact on our lives WINDOW - BEAUTY

Week 32	Trinity 1	1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20] 16-20 [11:14-end] Mark 2:23-3:6	He's saying that when we pay attention to God, then we'll be working together with Jesus, just like a family – a really big and loving family	World Environment Day 5 th – responsibility to environment Respect WINDOW - BEAUTY
Week 33	Trinity 2	1 Samuel 8:4-11 [12-15] Mark 3:20-end	Jesus says that whoever pays attention to God is his brother and sister and mother. <i>He's saying that when we pay attention to God, then we'll be working together with Jesus, just like a family – a really big, loving, good family.</i>	King Charles' Birthday Healthy Eating Week
Week 34	Trinity 3	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 Mark 4:26-34	When we love God our love grows and grows; we don't know exactly how that works, but we can see the results. The Kingdom of God is a healthy, living, growing thing that helps each one of us grow strong. We not only grow in our bodies, we grow in love.	Father's Day – 16 th Christian celebration of Fathers Respect
Week 35	Trinity 4	1 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 Mark 4:35-41	Jesus wants us to know that we don't have to be afraid. We can know that Jesus loves us and is always with us, so even in scary times that feel like storms inside of us, he can keep us calm. We can have faith that he will help us.	St. John's Day (Birth of John the Baptist) 24 th CANDLE - BEYOND
Week 36	Trinity 5	2 Samuel 1:1, 17-end 2 Corinthians 8:7-end Mark 5:21-end	Have faith in Jesus as He has performed miracles that heal and even bring people back to life. This is how powerful His love is for us.	Social Media Day - 30 th
Week 38	Trinity 6	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13	The disciples went out and told those who would listen about the good news of God's love. And that is good advice for all of us, children and adults; that we share the good news of God's love with those who will listen.	Thank you Day - 7 th Respect
Week 39	Trinity 7	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29	Not everyone liked the good news of God's love, healing, and forgiveness and those people tried to stop the passing on of the good news. But that didn't stop Jesus or others from sharing the good news, just like I wasn't able to distract you enough to stop you from passing the note to each other.	St Swithun's Day 15 th Eid Al Adha - 17 th CANDLE - BEYOND
Week 40	Trinity 8	2 Samuel 7:1-14a Ephesians 2:11-end Mark 6:30-34, 53-end	Jesus helps us know the best ways to give time to God: By reading and discussing the faith stories, by praying, and by worshipping together. The more of our time we give as a gift to God, the more God will help us know amazing ways we can give gifts of God's love and healing to others-- just like Jesus did.	International Self Care Day – 24 th MIRROR - SELF