



## **Collective Worship Policy**

Our aims are as simple as "ABC" - Achieving, Belonging, Caring, and we believe that accomplishing these requires courage.

**'Be courageous for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go'**

### **Joshua 1:9**

At Cubbington Church of England Primary School, our Collective Worship Policy reflects our deeply held Christian vision rooted in creation, incarnation, the Trinity, love, salvation, and reconciliation. Our aim is to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment where all members of our community can grow spiritually, morally, socially, and culturally.

### **Purpose of Collective Worship**

The daily act of collective worship is central to our school's life, it is the heartbeat of the school drawing together our Christian vision and values. It is invitational, inspiring and inclusive. It offers opportunities for reflection on the "ows, wows, and nows of life":

- **Ow:** Recognising and expressing the challenges and difficulties we face, trusting in God's presence during trials.
- **Wow:** Celebrating the wonder of creation, moments of joy, and the beauty of life as blessings from God.
- **Now:** Engaging with the present, living out our faith and values in ways that transform our community and world.

Our collective worship seeks to:

- Provide space to worship God and encounter Jesus Christ in a meaningful way.
- Explore the richness of Christian teachings and values.
- Encourage spiritual growth and reflection, offering experiences that deepen understanding of faith.
- Strengthen our sense of belonging and foster love, reconciliation, and care within our community.

## **Aims of Collective Worship**

Through collective worship, we aim to:

1. Affirm our identity as a Church of England school, reflecting God's love in our daily life.
2. Inspire courage, as reflected in our core belief that God is always with us.
3. Be inclusive, encouraging a sense of belonging and caring for each other.
4. Celebrate diversity and promote unity, ensuring all children feel valued and included.
5. Create opportunities for stillness, prayer, and contemplation to nurture a personal relationship with God.
6. Highlight Christian values and principles through engaging and interactive worship experiences.

## **The Anglican Christian Tradition**

The following are shared as Christian elements of Collective Worship:

- Exploring the Christian understanding of The Trinity; God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Using the Bible for inspiration, stories and guidance
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Including Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Saints Days
- Saying prayers, in particular the Lord's Prayer, and using liturgical responses at the beginning and end of worship
- Singing a variety of hymns and songs
- Experiencing Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection

## **Structure and Organisation**

Our collective worship follows a planned two-year cycle focusing on courage and our nine core Christian values, which are linked to achieving, belonging, and caring. Each value is explored through stories, scripture, music, and reflection. We also incorporate key events in the church calendar such as Pentecost and Advent.

The weekly pattern includes:

- **Monday:** Whole school worship led by Reverend Ann or the Open the Book team.
- **Tuesday:** Key Stage worship led by teaching staff, integrating scripture and reflection.
- **Wednesday (Worship Wednesday):** Worship through music, led by teaching staff or Mr and Mrs Kreeger
- **Thursday:** Key Stage worship focusing on achievements, rewards, and shared successes.
- **Friday:** Whole school worship led by the headteacher, celebrating community and faith.

We base our Collective Worship around the 4 stages set out in the Imaginor Roots and Shoots Curriculum.

- **Gathering/Welcome**– we welcome the community with music, liturgy
- **Engaging/Learning** – we share a bible reading, an activity or a story to engage pupils with the Christian message
- **Reflecting and Responding** -- pupils discuss, share, reflect, pray – during this we light a candle
- **Sending** – we share the message of the worship again and ask pupils to think about how they will affect their day / learning/ behaviour, liturgy and blowing out of the candles. When appropriate the Collective Worship Leaders are given something that supports worship to take back and place in the class worship area.

We hold worship services at St Mary's Church for Harvest, Advent, and Easter. These are led by different classes. Parents/carers are invited to join these Church services.

### **Participation and Inclusion**

We actively encourage children to plan and lead aspects of worship. This involvement might include:

- Writing prayers or choosing hymns.
- Reflecting on Bible stories or creating visual displays.
- Sharing personal experiences that illustrate living out our values.
- Lighting the candle during our times of reflection and prayer.
- Each class votes for a collective worship leader

We embrace children of all faiths and beliefs while maintaining a focus on Christian teachings. The opportunities for saying prayers and singing Christian songs is always invitational.

### **Fostering Spirituality**

Spirituality is nurtured through moments of awe, wonder, and reflection. Worship incorporates a variety of stimuli—music, art, stories, and stillness—to explore the "ows, wows, and nows." Through this, we:

- Help children make sense of life's challenges and joys.
- Celebrate the miraculous in everyday life, fostering gratitude.
- Encourage mindfulness and present-focused living, grounded in faith.

### **Resources and Environment**

The Worship Table serves as a focal point, adorned with a coloured cloth to reflect the current season of the church year, Bibles, candles, and prayer books. Displays and materials reflect the Christian value being explored, and children are encouraged to contribute resources. Special prayers written by children are compiled and shared.

## **Right of withdrawal**

We welcome children of all faiths at Cubbington C of E Primary School and hope that all children are involved in Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship and we will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal enables us to comply with our statutory duties.

## **Monitoring and Review**

The monitoring of this policy, and the daily act of Collective Worship, is the responsibility of the headteacher in partnership with our Church clergy and the foundation governors who report back regularly to the full governing body. Governors are always welcome to attend Collective Worship. This policy will be reviewed every three years or more frequently if needed to respond to any new guidance. Regular reviews ensure alignment with our Christian vision and the evolving needs of our community.

## **Conclusion**

At Cubbington, our collective worship embodies our commitment to use courage to foster a sense of achieving, belonging, and caring, guided by the profound truths of the Christian faith. Together, we strive to recognise God's presence in every aspect of life, nurturing a community where everyone can flourish spiritually, morally, and socially.