



Through wisdom, compassion and endurance, we endeavour to make the best decisions for our children

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



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Whaddon Church of England Combined School

Compassion Wisdom Endurance

At Whaddon Church of England Combined School, we...

- Are a Christian community where everyone can grow in Christian faith and develop an understanding and tolerance of others
- Promote the holistic development of each person and to provide the best education for every pupil within a supportive environment.
- Foster each child's identity as a citizen of the world.
- Equip children with the skills to develop independent thinking and learning.
- Establish an environment where children have the freedom and confidence to take risks and make mistakes and which will clearly reflect the Christian values of our foundation.
- Develop personal responsibilities and life skills.
- Enable our children to demonstrate respect for one another and the environment, valuing difference.
- Provide children with a broad educational experience which incorporates the National Curriculum, at the appropriate level for each child, and fully embraces outdoor learning, physical education, the arts, music

Our Values

WISDOM ENDURANCE COMPASSION are our school Christian Values which guide our children's behaviour and our own:

The Wisdom to learn from our experiences and then to use this knowledge wisely to develop good relationships with others

Compassion to understand the way our actions affect our classmates so we strive to ensure we create happy and friendly feelings through these actions

Endurance to create not only positive learning behaviour but also loyalty and the drive to keep trying to be the best person we can possibly be.

Expectations

Everyone will...

Feel safe

Be able to work hard

Be proud of our individuality

Support each other

Achieve

Our Principles behind daily Collective Worship

At Whaddon Church of England School we aim to provide the opportunity for the whole school community to:

- Take time out of our busy day and come together to be in the presence of God
- Worship God through song, prayer thought and word
- Reflect on our Christian values
- Consider spiritual, cultural and moral issues and explore personal belief
- Celebrate festivals and achievements together
- Encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered
- Develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes
- Celebrate special occasions in the Church year and the life of the community
- Reflect and make use of silence
- Feel safe and affirmed in their own belief

Statutory Requirements

By law, collective Worship must:

- take place every day for every child in the school not withdrawn by their parents
- reflect the school's Trust Deed

All acts of worship are in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and reflect the Anglican status of the school. In addition to daily school worship, special celebrations take place in Church.

This means that collective worship will reflect the traditions and principles of worship within the Church of England, whilst being invitational, inclusive and valuing of people from all backgrounds, cultures and positions of faith.

The Governors are responsible for upholding the Christian foundation of the school and ensuring the daily provision of Collective Worship. This is supported by and in consultation with the Headteacher. The responsibility to uphold the Christian ethos and foundation of the school should be made clear to staff on their appointment. The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring the act of Daily Collective Worship takes place but is not required to attend every occasion.

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective worship time is distinct from curriculum time given to any subject including religious education. However, at Whaddon Church of England School, we aim to enable collective worship and aspects of children's classroom learning to be mutually supportive.

Collective Worship provides opportunities to promote British Values and pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development in line with school policy. To achieve this, a wide variety of themes and values are covered. A range of diverse stimuli, resources and visitors provide pupils with opportunities to respond at their own level. Class worship enables planning of worship to be differentiated to meet the spiritual needs of different age groups and allows for more children to participate in discussion and reflection in class groups.

Planning Collective Worship

Teaching staff plan collaboratively and time is devoted to creating a whole school overview for the year for a calendar of: Key Religious events, Annual/Historical events and Local events alongside planned Collective Worship Themes which incorporate our School values and British values. The overview also incorporates Visits & Visitors and Themed days/weeks for the year. Under each British value, linked to one of our School values, we select Bible stories that exemplify the values. By the end of the school year, the children will have listened to or taken part in retelling at least 27 stories from the Bible through Collective Worship.

There is always flexibility to adapt and change worship to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues.

Worship planning is on display in the staffroom for all to see and is shared with the SIAMs team at the start of the year.

The 1998 Education Act allows schools, on special occasions, to hold their daily Act of Worship elsewhere than in the school. This enables us to hold services in St Mary's Church and at our village Memorial. Collective Worship has also taken place in our Forest School area.

Our local clergy and other visitors are welcome to lead Collective Worship and are given guidance on our worship policy. When possible leaders from other faiths within the area help us to increase the pupil's awareness, promote respect and raise the self-esteem of the pupils who belong to these faiths.

All teachers take a role in planning and leading worship. Class worship is led by the teachers and Learning support assistants.

We encourage the children to plan and lead their own Acts of Worship. Primarily, it helps the children to consider how they would like to Worship. It is also a good opportunity for developing speaking and listening activities and provides a wide range of opportunities for SMSC and British Values development.

The children play an active role in worship by writing prayers, reading bible verses, choosing hymns and music, being responsible for lighting the candle and take an active participation in the worship. We encourage children to suggest spontaneous prayers during Collective Worship, which may also include a time for quiet reflection.

The children are encouraged to use the time when walking to Worship to be calm and become ready to be in the presence of God. Collective Worship is introduced by the lighting of the candle. Our prayers are addressed to Jesus and God reflecting the traditions and practices of the Church of England. Reciting the Lord's Prayer and then blowing out the candle signals the end of worship.

Organisation

Collective worship takes place, as a whole school, or class in the school hall, the classroom, outside and at St Mary's Church. It occurs at a set time in the school day and is designed to promote thinking beyond the time given to worship itself. Parents and families are invited to join us at any of the Whole School Worship and especially the services held at St Mary's Church.

Timing of Daily Collective Worship is flexible but approximately 20 minutes is allocated with longer on a Friday for Worship and celebration assembly.

Day	Time	Class/Whole school	Lead adult
Monday	2.30 – 2.50	Whole School	Headteacher/Teacher
Tuesday	2.30 – 2.50	Singing Worship	TA & Singing Teacher
Wednesday	2.30 – 2.50	Whole School	Rev Gussie
Thursday	2.30 – 2.50	Class – Reflecting on the relevance of the week's CW theme in our lives	Class teachers
Friday	2.20 – 2.50	Whole School Worship & Celebration Assembly	Headteacher/Teacher

Timing of Daily Collective Worship can be flexible. This may involve classes, different age groups, whole classes at any time of the day, but should be held on school premises or at St Mary's Church.

We visit St Mary's Church each term for services often planned and led by the children. The whole village community is welcome to join us in our worship.

Resources

Resources for worship are kept in the cupboards in the hall or under the stage.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Following the planning of worship; the evaluation and recording, needs to be an integral part of the process. Worship can be evaluated by those leading the worship, other staff, the pupils for whom the worship is intended or members of the governing body. Feedback from any of these groups will help to improve the quality of worship offered to the pupils.

All stakeholders including staff, Governors, pupils, parents and visitors are invited to evaluate our worship.

Staff, pupils and where appropriate parent's views are collected annually through our staff and pupil worship questionnaires and parent school questionnaire. This provides opportunities for the school community to evaluate the quality and impact of collective worship and to identify ways in which it might be improved. The Foundation Governors have a key role in the monitoring and evaluation process and to ensure that the legal requirements are met ensuring the worship offered to pupils is of the highest quality. To monitor the effectiveness of worship, SIAMS committee members complete the Collective worship section of the SIAMS Self-evaluation toolkit and this is shared at the full Governing body meetings.

Withdrawal

Our policy sets out clearly our aspirations that collective worship will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of the school and local community, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs. It is invitational and reflective in its nature and doesn't coerce or indoctrinate.

We appreciate opportunities to speak with parents or staff who have concerns about collective worship and are always keen to develop our understanding of the sensitivities of other faiths, beliefs and cultures overcoming any difficulties where possible.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship as stated in the 1988 Education Act. We request that those who wish to exercise this right inform the Headteacher in writing so that school records are accurate and alternative arrangements for learning can be made. Those pupils who are withdrawn from worship are cared for by a member of the school's staff. When services take place in Church two members of staff will remain in school to ensure the safety and supervision of any pupils withdrawn and to ensure appropriate learning opportunities are given.

All teachers, including the head teacher, have the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship, but the head teacher, should he or she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship at Whaddon Church of England School.

Religious festivals	Annual/Historical Events	Local Events	Collective Worship themes: School Values British Values and Religious Stories DL: one each half term to introduce focus	Visits & Visitors	Themed Days/Weeks
13 th Eid-UL-Adha M 30 th Harvest Festival Ch 16 th -23 rd Week of Prayer for World Peace 30 th Diwali H S	31 st Halloween Harvest Festival	Church Open Day Harvest Festival – Church & Chapel	Democracy (Link to Endurance) The Prodigal Son Jesus healing the lepers Moses in Egypt Joseph and his Brothers Ruth Jesus in the desert – making decisions DL-Going places safely	Rev Gussie – Every Wednesday	Diwali
14 th Birthday of Guru Nanak S	5 th Bonfire Night 8 th Remembrance day 14 th - 18 th Anti-Bullying week 18 th Children in Need	Whaddon Bonfire display	Individual Liberty (Link to Endurance & Wisdom) The Good Samaritan The Wise Man and the Foolish Man Adam and Eve Acts 17:2-5/ Matthew 27:17-18: spreading the word of Jesus David and Goliath DL-ABC searching	Y2- Science Fair	
27 th Start of advent Ch 24 th -1 st Jan Hanukah J	Nativity 11 th December Christingle	12 th December Christingle		Y2 – St Mary's Advent Experience Whole School pantomime Trip	Advent/Christmas
25 th Christmas Ch					
6 th Epiphany 17 th World Religion Day 28 th Chinese New Year	1 st New Year's Day		The Rule of Law (Wisdom) The 10 Commandments The Nativity Story Solomon Noah's Ark Epiphany		
15 th Nirvana B	7 th Safer Internet Day			Y1&3 – Trip to Synagogue Y2 – Trip to Hindu Temple	
1 st Ash Wednesday Ch 13 th Holy H	2 nd World Book Day 17 th St Patrick's Day 24 th Comic Relief 26 th Mothering Sunday 23 rd St George's Day	Easter Church Service	DL-Ownership of creative work Mutual Respect (Link to Compassion) Creation story – we are made in the image of God Story of Ruth: respecting our relatives The Good Samaritan The Lost Sheep Jesus washing disciples' feet DL-E-mails	F5 – St Mary's Teddy Christening	Mother's Day Tea Party
9 th Palm Sunday 10 th – 18 th Passover (Pesach) J 14 th -17 th Good Friday, 14 th Vaisakhi S					Easter
16 th Easter Sunday Ch 10 th Buddha day (Wesak) B 27 th Ramadan M	15 th -19 th Walk to school Week 1 st May Day	May Fayre	Tolerance of different cultures and religions (Link to Compassion) Daniel and the Lion's Den The Good Samaritan Bartimaeus Luke 5:31 – Levi the Tax collector 1 Samuel 16:1-13 -Samuel chooses the next King Zacchaeus	Whole School – Christchurch Cathedral	
4 th Pentecost 25 th Eid-al-Fitr M	18 th Father's Day	Arts Fortnight	DL-Keep it private Being led by our values as we prepare to move on Revisit stories DL-Playing games safely		Father's Day Celebration Writing Week 12 th - 16 th
	Moving on Service	Road Dahl Day		Whole School - College Lake	Healthy bodies Week

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 today 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
forever and ever

Amen

Lord

Give us the Compassion to understand what others are going through and to help them.

Give us the Wisdom to know how to be better and to make good choices.

Give us the Endurance to be strong and not give up, even when something is difficult.

God Bless everyone in our School, our Friends and our Families.

We love you Lord,

Amen.