



St Philip's CE Primary Academy

Collective Worship Policy

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Contents:

Safeguarding Statement
Mission Statement
Vision Statement
Statement of Intent
Our Values
Legal and Trust Deed Compliance
Church of England Principles
Aims of Collective Worship
Purpose of the Collective Worship Policy
Daily Structure of Collective Worship
Pupil Leadership and Voice
Planning and Themes
Spiritual Development
SEND Considerations
Monitoring and Evaluation
Impact
Staff Development
Right of Withdrawal
Partnerships
Review

Safeguarding Statement

At St Philip's Primary Academy we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all academy activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. Every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at St Philip's Primary Academy must comply with safeguarding requirements. External visitors leading worship will be fully briefed, supervised, and checked in line with our safeguarding policy.

Mission Statement

St Philip's Primary Academy strives to be an academy where children can celebrate the successes of their learning and achievements, can realise and exceed their potential through quality teaching and learning, can communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and develop the skills and attributes necessary to be positive future citizens in our changing society.

Vision Statement

Fostering curiosity and a love of learning is at the heart of our teaching. Broadening horizons enables all children to flourish and be fulfilled. Successes are celebrated and failure learned from, allowing us to shine through challenges. Together, we develop qualities of character necessary to be positive future citizens.

Statement of Intent

Collective Worship is an important part of St Philip's Primary Academy life. It is of a 'broadly' Christian character and carefully planned in recognition of the cultural background, ages and abilities of our pupils and in accordance with the instrument of government to enable children to participate in worshipping God at their own level. This policy explicitly aligns with the Church of England Statement of Entitlement.

Our Values

At St Philip's CE Primary Academy we pride ourselves on developing a positive ethos built on the foundations of the Christian faith, whilst taking into consideration that most of our pupils, staff and community follow the faith of Islam. We endeavour to ensure we are always 'Working together with hope in our hearts'

This ethos is based on the following values that, as stakeholders, we all aim to uphold:

Value 1: NURTURING

We demonstrate kindness and caring towards each other so that we can find happiness and fulfilment. We promote and support children's wellbeing to support their growth and development.

Value 2: OPTIMISTIC

We believe that having a positive attitude towards situations enables us to be forward thinking and supports us in our goal of providing a good and better education for all of our pupils.

Value 3: ASPIRATIONAL

We have high aspirations for the futures of the children in our Academy. Through a high-quality curriculum and planning of lessons that are specifically tailored for our pupils, they will have the opportunity to achieve and surpass their potential.

Value 4: HOPEFUL

The value of hope is interwoven into our teaching and is an expression of our faith. Hope supports our spirituality, and through that, virtues such as forgiveness, empathy and compassion come to the fore.

Value 5: SINCERE

We are united as a whole to ensure integrity, honesty and trust are maintained. This quality within our academy means that we follow our values to ensure that we always do our best for pupils, staff and community.

Value 6: ASSURED

Our goal is to see our pupils confident, armed with independence and conviction, echoing 'Let your light shine' - Matthew 5:16

Value 7: RESPECTFUL

All members of our academy, including pupils, staff, governors, visitors and the wider community, should be treated with respect. We hold politeness in high regard and we are accepting of each individual's uniqueness.

Value 8: KNOWLEDGEABLE

By fostering resilience, collaboration and risk-taking, we craft an environment where pupils are ready to be lifelong learners. Aims of our Collective Worship Policy

Legal and Trust Deed Compliance

This policy reflects our obligations under the **Education Reform Act 1988** and the **Education Act 1993**, which require Collective Worship to be "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character." As a Church of England school, our worship also reflects our **Anglican foundation**, as expressed in our **trust deed**, and is shaped by the rich traditions of Anglican worship.

Church of England Principles

Our Collective Worship is:

- **Inclusive:** Accessible to all, regardless of faith background. Pupils are invited to participate, reflect, or observe with integrity.
- **Invitational:** Worship is never compulsory. Pupils and adults are invited to engage, pray or reflect in their own way.
- **Inspiring:** Worship encourages deep thinking, spiritual growth and courageous advocacy. It motivates pupils to act with compassion and justice.

Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship provides opportunity for the children of St Philip's CE Primary Academy, as diverse individuals from different faith backgrounds, to come together for a shared purpose.

In order to develop this aim, acts of Collective Worship will:

- promote the spiritual, moral and cultural development of the pupils;
- be consistent with the aims of the school;
- be quality learning opportunities relevant to the pupils' experience;
- foster a sense of group identity and provide experiences of being part of a community, sharing the values of the school;
- provide a time for reflection on spiritual and moral issues and values, pausing from immediate concerns to consider fundamental questions and the importance of religious beliefs of those who hold them;
- provide opportunities for pupils to consider and explore their own beliefs and those of other people;
- promote respect for the integrity of individuals and faiths;
- provide opportunities for pupils to worship if they so wish;
- encourage participation and response
- provide opportunities to celebrate such things as achievement and special occasions, and to share feelings such as thankfulness, joy, friendship, sadness or hope;
- evokes senses of spirituality such as beauty, wonder, awe, pride, stillness, peace

The Purpose of our Collective Worship Policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that our Academy encourages children to participate in daily worship. We provide programmes, materials, training and resources which will support people in planning or leading worship.

Daily Structure of Worship

Collective Worship is held daily, with a consistent rhythm that supports spiritual development:

- **Monday:** Collective Worship led by clergy or Headteacher, often exploring biblical stories and big questions. Pupils and adults are encouraged to ask and reflect on spiritual ideas.
- **Tuesday:** Thought of the Week Worship led by senior leaders, introducing the weekly theme linked to Christian values and the liturgical calendar.
- **Wednesday:** Big Question Worship led by teachers or pupils, allowing for age-appropriate reflection and discussion.
- **Thursday:** Worship Through Song. Pupils and adults engage in joyful praise through hymns and songs that reflect biblical teachings and school values. Lyrics are explored for spiritual meaning, and prayer or reflection is included.
- **Friday:** Celebration Worship with parents. Achievements are celebrated in the light of Christian values, and the community gathers in thanksgiving and reflection.

Each act of worship follows the pattern: **Gather – Engage – Respond – Go Forth**, allowing pupils and adults reflect, participate and carry the message into their day.

Pupil Leadership and Voice

Our Worship Council are actively involved in:

- Planning and leading worship
- Evaluating its impact
- Developing themes and questions that reflect their experiences and spiritual journey
- Supporting pupil leadership and ensure worship reflects the whole school community.

Planning and Themes

Worship is carefully planned to:

- Align with the school's Christian values and vision
- Reflect the seasons of the Church year
- Respond to current events and pupil interests
- Include opportunities for reflection on social justice and ethical issues

Spiritual Development

Worship provides:

- Time for stillness, prayer and contemplation
- Opportunities to explore awe and wonder
- A language of spirituality woven through the week
- Dedicated spaces for spontaneous prayer and reflection

SEND Considerations:

Collective Worship is inclusive and accessible for all pupils, including those with SEND. Worship planning considers sensory needs, communication style and provides adapted opportunities for engagement.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Worship is monitored by staff, governors and pupils
- Feedback is gathered regularly to inform planning and improvement through pupil voice, governor reports and staff reflection.
- Governors have a named lead for Collective Worship and receive training to support their role
- Impact is measured using surveys, observation records, and governor visit evaluations to ensure that worship remains invitational, inclusive and inspiring.

Impact

- Shapes and develops informed world views
- Influences understanding
- Contributes to spiritual development
- Builds genuine community
- Evidence of impact is documented through pupil voice, staff and governor monitoring and school improvement planning.

Staff Development

- Worship leaders, including clergy, receive regular training
- Staff are supported with high-quality resources
- External visitors are briefed and monitored to ensure alignment with our vision and context

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. This is explained in our school prospectus and website, and we aim to discuss this respectfully with families.

Partnerships

We work closely with our local church and diocese to enrich worship and spiritual life. Families are informed about Collective Worship themes each week through their 'Talk Homework' and are invited to participate and support worship at home if they wish. Our community are invited to attend special services at both the church and school.

Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every two years., ensuring compliance with statutory requirements and alignment with the Statement of Entitlement.

