



CHRIST CHURCH CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Policy for Collective Worship

Original Policy Date: October 2002

Current Policy Date: September 2018

Date for Review September 2019



Christ Church CE Primary Battersea

Collective Worship Policy

Collective Worship is a special and separate time in each school day which all children attend. They are inspired through hearing stories from the Bible and Christian teaching, and participating in the worship of God through prayer, singing and reflection.

Themes of Collective Worship are linked to the Value of the Month, which are on a two year rolling programme, mainly taken from the **Christian Values for Schools** website. They also reflect the Christian calendar with special acts of Collective Worship to celebrate Christian festivals, such as Harvest, Easter and Christmas. School Eucharist are held twice a term, which again relate to the Christian calendar or events special to the school such as Candlemas or the New School Year. The Vicar of Christ Church and St Stephen, presides.

We invite visitors from local Anglican churches and others from the Christian community to lead our Collective Worship, often at special occasions such as Harvest or Advent.

The Vicar leads our Collective Worship each Wednesday, sharing stories from the Bible which reflect our Value of the Month, or the relevant Christian festival.

The Head Teacher, Deputy Head and RE Co-Ordinator lead Collective Worship once a week, with Class Teachers leading on a rota basis throughout the term. Children are often involved in leading and planning Collective Worship or a Eucharist, with each class taking their turn to do this.

There is also a weekly opportunity to worship through singing, which is differentiated for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Here, in the context of worship, the children learn new songs relating to the Value of the Month, and sing with enjoyment and appreciation, the ones they already know.

Children and adults are encouraged to live out and discuss the Values outside the act of Collective Worship, and to practice them in the classroom and playground, and indeed in their communities. They are given opportunity to reflect upon them, developing a sense of responsibility for themselves and those around them. Each classroom has a Prayer Area, with a Prayer Bear, Prayer Box and Notebook to record their prayers. Prayers are said in class at the beginning of the day, before lunch and at the end of the day. The children are keen to use these prayers in different contexts, for example on School Journey.

Collective Worship is also a context in which to celebrate the achievements of the children and the school, and Friday's act includes 'Good News' and individual certificates as well as sharing group or whole school achievements.

Our aim in Collective Worship is to enable everyone to have a sense of belonging to the school, and to know that they are part of the worldwide family of God

Children are encouraged to contribute to the planning and presentation of Collective Worship when their class is leading. They are also encouraged to participate by responding to questions, through drama, singing and prayer.

Special Occasions (led by different classes)

New School Year is celebrated with a school Eucharist

Harvest: Children donate food which is then given to the local foodbank

Advent: is celebrated with a school Eucharist

Christmas: Children, staff and parents celebrate Christmas with a carol service for KS2 and drama presentation from EYFS and Key Stage 1.

Candlemas is celebrated with a school Eucharist

Ash Wednesday: The beginning of Lent is marked with a service and the giving out of ashes.

Pentecost is celebrated with a school Eucharist

Easter: Children present three special whole school assemblies during Holy Week with Palm Sunday, The Last Supper and Good Friday as their themes.

Pentecost is celebrated with a school Eucharist

End of Year: At the end of each school year there is a special celebration and service for school-leavers.

Record Keeping and Monitoring

Collective worship will be monitored in order to ensure that it meets the school's policy.

Parents have the right to withdraw children from Collective Worship. However our experience is that all children want to be part of this important part of the school day, and feel they have their place there whether of a different faith or none.

Policy Review Date

September 2019

Links:

RE Policy