



# Huxley C.E. & Utkinton St. Paul's C.E. Primary School

## Collective Worship Policy

"Developing confident children through creativity and choice within a Christian community"

"Enabling every child to fulfil his/her potential in a nurturing Christian environment"

**Purpose** (taken from SIAMS Evaluation Schedule (2018) Collective Worship 'excellence' grade descriptors)

To ensure that:

- The school community recognises and values Worship as the heartbeat of the school.
- Pupils and adults talk with enthusiasm about Worship and explain how it influences their lives, both in and out of school.
- School leaders work proactively with the local church community or diocese who provide innovative and appropriate support for Collective Worship.
- Pupils take a considerable lead in the development of Worship within the school.
- Staff are well supported to lead engaging Classroom Worship.
- Pupils articulate an informed and evaluative understanding of the value and use of prayer and reflection.
- There are varied and interactive prayer and reflection activities on offer to all pupils which they find helpful and supportive.
- Where appropriate, pupils are provided with opportunities to engage with the Eucharist in creative and innovative ways, and this ensures a range of age and context appropriate opportunities for pupils to explore the Eucharist in ways that respect the integrity of the pupils.

### **Agreed Procedure**

- Collective Worship follows the 'Collective Worship Guides for the Primary School' published by Chester Diocesan Board of Education, 2009.
- Collective worship should be **distinctly Christian**.
- There must be an act of Collective Worship every day.
- All teaching personnel are offered the opportunity and encouraged to attend and support Collective Worship.
- Long-term planning for Christian Festivals, and other important world faiths, is included in the Termly Task Cycle
- Medium Term Planning is monitored by the Headteacher and combines the 'Christian Value of the Week' linked to biblical teachings. This is shared with local clergy and staff members.
- The 'Christian Value of the Week' will be celebrated in the school's Weekly Newsletter (Star of the Week section) and put prominently on display throughout the school.
- Each week, children will be encouraged to reflect upon the impact of Worship and their experience of the 'Christian Value of the Week' and this will be recorded in a format appropriate to the age and stage of the children in their 'Reflective Journal'.

Weekly Collective Worship follows the pattern below:

<b>Monday</b>	Whole School Worship led by school staff introducing the 'Christian Value of the Week' and biblical teachings.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Whole School Worship led by local clergy or school staff (linked to 'Christian Value of the Week').
<b>Wednesday</b>	Sing and Praise - Hymns related to 'Christian Value of the Week'/any upcoming celebrations/services.
<b>Thursday</b>	Infant and Junior Class Worship led by Class Teacher (linked to 'Christian Value of the Week').
<b>Friday</b>	Whole School Celebration Worship- a reflection of the impact of the 'Christian Value of the Week'. Entry in 'Reflective Journal'.

- If the school returns on a day other than Monday, the week begins with a Whole School Worship introducing the 'Christian Value of the Week'.

- Daily Worship follows the form below:

Y6 Worship Helpers will set the hall up for children and staff (Huxley). Children come in to Collective Worship to appropriate music.
Preparation- a greeting and lighting of candle (children will be invited to take responsibility for these) Children will be taught a range of 'Gathering' and 'Sending' phrases so that they experience a range which may be encountered in different places of Worship – these will be outlined on the weekly planning.
Message linked to 'Christian Value of the Week' and Project Happiness – this may include hearing and exploring words of the Bible.
Hymn/Song.
Prayers (including the Lord's Prayer).
Final Blessing/Grace and Sending. Children leave Collective Worship to appropriate music.

- It is the parent/carers' legal right to withdraw their child from acts of Worship. If there are any children whose parents/carers exercise their right to withdraw them from Worship, alternative activities will be provided in consultation with the children's parents. Children will still be encouraged to engage and reflect upon teaching in a way which is sympathetic to their own spirituality/religious beliefs.
- If the school feels a child/children may struggle with the content of an act of Collective Worship e.g. Mothering Sunday due to the loss of their mother the school, in consultation with the parent(s), will agree the best course of action for the child(ren).
- Children must not be withdrawn for educational reasons e.g. music lesson, booster classes, SEND input.
- Collective Worship is co-ordinated by Lauren Albertelli.

### Monitoring

- The Collective Worship Policy and planning will be reviewed each year by staff and Governors and amendments made where necessary to ensure it meets the needs of their current pupils.
- The children will be asked to reflect upon Worship in creative ways at regular intervals, e.g. through their 'Reflective Journals'.

**This Policy is based on Collective Worship Guidelines for the Primary School written by Chester Diocesan Board of Education in 2009 in November 2014 and was last reviewed in September 2018 by staff and governors.**

**Headteacher:** *Gareth Coyne (Acting Headteacher)*

**Governor (Huxley):** *Stephen Ratledge*

**Governor (Utkinton):** *Simon Lewin*

**Date:** *November 2018*

**Review Date Autumn 2019.**