

ALL SAINTS' C.E. (C) PRIMARY SCHOOL, ALREWAS

Worship Policy Document



'Believe to Achieve'
"Living life to the full" (John 10:10)

School Values

Love + Forgiveness + Friendship + Thankfulness + Trust + Respect = Koinonia

Worship is...

Giving honour and reverence to a supreme being. Christian worship is concerned with bringing praise, prayer, thanksgiving and adoration to God. It is an activity of response; in words, actions and thoughts.

1. General Principle

Collective Worship at All Saints' Primary School plays a central part in the life of our school. It provides an opportunity for members of the school community to cease from activity, to gather together to remind themselves of and reflect upon the belief and values which bind the school community together.

As its 'living centre' of the work, worship and worth of the school, it offers the whole school opportunities to participate in the living expression of Christian Worship, valued and honoured through the schools' Anglican Foundation. This is set within the context of the corporate community of our school which values the spiritual, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and affirms every individual's unique contribution regardless of age, sex, ability, background or religion.

2. Legal Requirements

Our daily act of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the School. This requires worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England. The Education Reform Act (1988) legislates that all acts of worship should be in keeping with the age, aptitude and family backgrounds of the pupils.

The school recognises the right of withdrawal from worship by both pupils and staff.

3. Aims of Collective Worship

For Worship

- To develop spiritual and personal growth through a thoughtful and creative attitude to pupils' own experiences and to formulate their own values and allegiances.
- Enhance the spiritual development and response of pupils by fostering reflection, meditation, prayer and silence.
- Foster a reverential attitude to God.
- Affirm the Christian faith and the central Christian status of Jesus as the Son of God - WWJD.
- Explore Eucharistic worship within the Anglican tradition - Eucharist Focus Days held each year.
- Provide an evocative setting for worship that fosters spiritual growth and reflection.
- Develop a sense of community and shared values.
- Inspire pupils to explore further their own faith and traditions for example, through focus days as selected by the children.
- Make regular use of church buildings for worship - Easter, Harvest, Christmas and Year 6 Leavers' Service.
- To consider important human questions, values and concerns.
- To learn about and reflect upon Christian Teaching, Biblical material and Christian Festivals, in a way that relates to the pupils' experience and to living together in the community.
- To promote understanding and respect for other faiths; and the beliefs and feelings of other people.
- To promote close links with the Church and Village community.
- To foster a thought provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response.
- To give children the opportunity for leadership and a say in Collective Worship through membership of the 'Worship Leader Group.'
- To provide the opportunity for daily prayer; in assembly, in class before lunch and at the end of the school day.

For Assembly

- To give pupils the experience of being still or silent.
- To build a sense of identity.
- To consider the needs of others, and foster charitable works.
- To celebrate the achievements of members of the school that are held to be of worth.

4. Management of Collective Worship

The Foundation Governors have the responsibility to ensure that the Trust Deed of the school is honoured.

In conjunction with the Governing Body, Headteacher, Staff and School Community, the Worship Policy created articulates the management and delivery of this area of the curriculum. Parents are also kept informed through the school website.

The Worship Co-ordinator is responsible for:-

- Managing the area of the curriculum on a day to day basis, ensuring all legal requirements are complied with.
- Auditing and keeping records of resources and ensuring they are accessible to pupils and staff as appropriate.
- Keeping in touch with development in the subject, acting in an advisory capacity to colleagues.
- Allowing for INSET and resource development.

5. School development plan for Collective Worship

Themes

Weekly Assembly themes are followed by both Key Stages in both separate and joint Assemblies. Assemblies are monitored to ensure continuity and progression within the themes.

Development of Resources

Worship is adequately resourced and regarded as central part of school life. We have recently implemented up to date resources to teach 'Understanding Christianity.' Worship Leaders are responsible for monitoring Worship Areas in each classroom and report to the Worship Leader Meetings and/or the Worship Leader. Children are provided with opportunities to plan and lead assemblies including acts of worship during assemblies - see rota.

Staff Training

As and when possible, the member of staff responsible for collective Worship will attend suitable In-service Training and will be expected to disseminate the knowledge acquired to the staff. He/she will be available to advise and support other members of staff as and when required.

Reviewing the System

Reviewing and monitoring will take place at regular intervals, and the quality and effectiveness will be assessed.

6. Current Practice.

a) Organisation

b) The pattern of Worship each week at present is as follows:-

Day	Grouping	Time	Leader	Content
Monday	KS1 KS2	9am 10.10am	Headteacher	Introduction of weekly theme. Rewards and celebrations
Tuesday	Class Assembly Key stage 1 Merits	9am	Assistant Headteacher	Rewards & celebrations/Age appropriate development of Worship theme.
Wednesday	Whole school	9am	Class teachers (rota)	Hymn practice/development of theme.
Thursday	Class Assembly Key stage 2 Merits	9am	Assistant Headteacher	Rewards & celebrations/Age appropriate development of Worship theme
Friday	KS1/KS2 alternated weekly	9am	Headteacher, & Rev J Allan, Chris Precious, rotated staff	Conclusion of worship theme with J Allan/C Precious.

Visitors and outside speakers are invited to speak in our Assemblies on various occasions. These include the Vicar, the local Methodist Minister, representatives from Charities and members of the Parish Council.

In addition, Services are held in the Parish Church, e.g. Harvest Celebrations, Christmas Carol Services, Easter Services, Mothers' Day Services and sometimes Eucharist services for small groups of Year 6 (this varies year on year). We also deliver focus days on Prayer, Discipleship and Eucharist every year. We are expanding this to include Christmas and Easter focused work for KS2.

c) Methodology for delivering the Worship programme

Current practice is such that it enables the children of both Key Stages to participate in Worship delivered at their level and to recognise that they are part of a school community through the joint Assemblies.

All members of staff lead an Act of Worship at some time during each term under the established framework.

Within each Assembly, on a daily basis, we recognise, explore, celebrate and affirm elements of Worship. These elements will include times of prayer, praise and reflection as well as times of sharing church rituals.

Reviewed: September 2017

Next review: September 2018