# ALL SAINTS CEVA

PRIMARY SCHOOL

AND NURSERY UNIT



# For

# **Collective Worship**

With Jesus as our guide, we will inspire a passion for learning, high aspirations, and respect for all.



POLICY TITLE:	Collective Worship Policy
POLICY REFERENCE NUMBER:	

POLICY OWNERSHIP:	
School	Head Teacher
Governors	Chair

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	January 2024
POLICY REVIEW DATE:	Yearly

#### POLICY REVIEW DOCUMENT HISTORY

This policy is monitored by the Policy Owner(s) and will be reviewed every year, or as dictated by school requirements or legislation.

Version	Date	Author	Amendment	Approval / Adoption
1	January 2024	E. Johnson		

## IMPLEMENTATION / UPDATING

Following approval, it is the responsibility of the Policy Owner(s) to ensure that the policy is: -

- circulated to all relevant stakeholders
- uploaded onto the school website.

#### **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Training time to staff and cost of update training.

## LEGAL COMPLIANCE & EQUALITY STATEMENT

At the time of ratifying this policy, the policy owner was satisfied that, to the best of their knowledge, this document complies with all relevant legislation.

The school is committed to the principles of Equality and under this policy no person will be treated less favourably on grounds of race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, gender, marital or parental status, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, proposed or actual gender re-assignment, economic group, employment status, or any other condition or legally protected characteristic which cannot be shown to be wholly justified in relation to the effective operation of the school.

At All Saints CEVA Primary School the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It will help educate for dignity and respect, encouraging all to live together well.

Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our vision "With Jesus as our guide we will inspire a passion for learning, high aspirations and respect for all."

## "Whatever you do. Work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord " Colossians 3:22

"It is the unique heartbeat of the school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversation about God. It should be truly welcoming, inclusive and exemplify the principles of Christian hospitality. This is an approach that seeks to meet the needs of all, wherever they may be on their journey of faith and belief."

Collective Worship statement of Entitlement and Expectation March 2021.

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements and sometimes failures together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

## Rationale

Collective worship at All Saints CEVA Primary School takes place daily in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and is a legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parent wishing to do so should contact the Head Teacher. Within All Saints CEVA School there is an expectation that all staff participate in Collective Worship. At interview staff are asked a question relating to their commitment to the Christian ethos of the school.

The content of all our acts of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust deed of this Church of England School.

Collective Worship is a shared experience which is the heartbeat of our school and a keyway in which we start our school day. It allows for a variety of responses and provides an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on inspiring input and stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity. The school also

offers the opportunity to explore, reflect upon and respond to the mystery and the meaning of the Christian faith.

Our Christian ethos is enhanced through Collective Worship by:

- Unpacking and embedding our vision and values
- Celebrate achievement, celebrations, and special times.
- Asking BIG questions and developing spirituality
- Motivating all to think differently and take action.

#### Aims of Collective Worship

We seek to reflect in our worship the Christian foundation of our school and our care for all who work here.

Our central aims of Collective Worship are;

- a) To strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God.
- b) To provide our pupils and others with regular opportunities for stillness, reflection, praise, and prayer and to respond to fundamental questions of life and faith.
- c) To promote spiritual, moral, and cultural development through prayer, reflection, and deep questioning.
- d) To celebrate the values and worth of this school and the Christian community including the sharing of gifts and talents of all our pupils.
- e) To help children develop respect and understanding of the nature, purpose, and language of Christian worship.
- f) To help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others.
- g) To encounter the teaching of Jesus and the Bible.

#### Content

Planned and sequenced work is broadly based on our vision but are also underpinned by world events and significant calendar dates. We reflect on Festivals and events not only in the Christian calendar but with other faiths.

Roots and Fruits - Values for Life is the basis which has been used to plan our Christian collective worship. It is rooted in Bible teaching and twelve Christian values represent the fruit that grows as the teaching is lived out in everyday life. Each term focuses on one value (theme) which links with the seasons of the church year.

It ensures that collective worship is in line with the Evaluation Schedule for expectations of school worship by:

- Inspiring and transformational
- Includes a range of creative opportunities e.g. music, silence, symbol, and drama.
- Develops the Christian vision, values, and ethos of the school.

The values covered through Roots and Fruits are:

- Generosity
- Compassion
- Courage
- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Respect
- Thankfulness
- Trust
- Perseverance
- Justice
- Service
- Truthfulness

These last a half term each and work in the order listed above over a two-year rolling programme.

We also mark out special occasions using All Saints Church as a venue for this worship with Clergy, families and congregation invited.

Space is made within the timetable to ensure that national events have space for celebration and the Church year is reflected.

Contents include:

- a) Celebration of all the major festivals of Christianity and the journey through the Church year, including the significance of these both locally and throughout the world.
- b) Presentation of Bible stories
- c) Topical matters from the news or the locality using Votes for School resource.
- d) Literature with implicit or explicit religious teaching.
- e) Appreciation of the natural world, human activity, the Anglican Church's commitment to ecumenism and the festivals of other major world faiths.
- f) Appreciation of the talents, achievements and work of ourselves and others.
- g) Visitors who represent organisations who have a brief acceptable to the school.
- h) Prayer in different forms formal including the Collects, pupil's own, silence.
- i) Use of music (this may include tracks as an introduction and conclusion, hymn singing and instrumental playing by members of the school) drama and poetry.
- j) Appropriate artefacts and focal points. (Candle, Cross, Flowers etc.)
- k) Participation by children and staff.

#### See Appendix 1 for daily plan of Collective Worship

#### Practicalities of Organisation.

#### Venues.

Collective Worship takes place in the school hall other than on the first Wednesday of the month when worship is conducted either at All Saints Church or All Hallows Church

Special events throughout the year associated with Christian Church calendar take place at All Saints or All Hallows Church for instance Harvest, Christingle, Nativity, Easter

#### When, how often, for how long

There is a daily act of Collective Worship for the whole school. Reception initially in September attend two and gradually build up to all five by Christmas. Each Collective Worship session lasts 20 minutes starting at 9.00 am.

Monday	Head Teacher	
Tuesday	Teaching staff/ VFS if appropriate	
Wednesday	Teaching Staff /Incumbent/CAT -Christian Assembly	
	Team	
Thursday	Singing Focus led by Music lead	
Friday	Celebration Head Teacher	

#### Composition and Leaders

Once a month on a Wednesday the school Christian Assembly Team leads a whole school collective worship based around a clear Bible story and once a month, we attend church to participate in worship at the church either All Saints or All Hallows

Across the year the incumbent delivers worship to the whole school and then stays and supports learning in RE in each class on a rota across the year.

Occasionally other organisations including other Faith Leaders lead worship with prior arrangement.

## Involvement of Children

From Year 6 there is a Collective Worship lead whose role is to set up the worship table and ensure that everything is ready for the session. Over the year this leader will train and involve other children to help and be involved in the lighting of the candles etc. A Deputy from Year 5 leads the closing statement.

Each class leads their own Class Worship once a year on a Friday with this based on the previous whole school collective worship value.

During Celebration Worship the children in Key Stage 2 on a rota basis, write and then read intercessions to the whole school. These intercessions are then stored in the Prayer book which can be used at other times. The children use the phrase "Lord in my mercy "as the closing statement for each prayer. We then share the Lord's Prayer with sign language.

Children often participate through reading and acting roles by the Leaders.

The Head boy and Head girl lead the school with the Lord's Prayer.

Children in Years 5 and 6 evaluate Collective Worship using a pro forma.

## Involvement of Adults

Parents are invited to attend Celebration worship, Class worship and all events held at All Saints and All Hallows Church.

The school is well supported by the Faith Group of Governors, attending worship sessions, and providing feedback to the Leaders. They work very closely with the RE subject lead.

All teaching staff attend worship sessions regularly when the whole school comes together.

## Classroom follow up.

Within each classroom there is a Reflection space, which is an area for children to use to consider the questions, thoughts raised through collective worship and through their RE lessons. Within the space there is an expectation that on display is:

- Prayer chair
- Cross
- Values poster showing the value in action with the Key Bible Verse, other key quotes and questions should be displayed around this poster.
- 2 other posters depicting the value in action to aid discussion.
- School Value poster on which post it notes can be collected by the staff and children when the value has been seen in action in the school context.
- RE theme, key questions related to this learning.
- Votes for School Topic
- School prayer
- Lunchtime and end of the day prayer

Across the week there is a session timetabled in for the class as a whole to discuss the value and the learning from the worship sessions. Tasks are set for the class to complete over the half term and for the development of the "Window, Mirror, Door."

All of this work is placed within the class worship journal which is reviewed by the Headteacher each half term.

A display is also created depicting work from Nursery to Year 6 upwards to reflect the value. Each term that work is then displayed at All Saints church.

Within the classroom when the value is seen a post it note is used to record this action, this can be a child or adult . At the end of the half term the collective worship lead and HT look through all of these and selects one person who has really encapsulated the

value and they are awarded in Celebration worship the All Saints Values Trophy donated to the school by a previous incumbent.

#### **Prayer and Reflection**

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and or reflection. A range of prayers come from the children's prayer book which is available in the hall and also the Lord's Prayer with sign language. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. At the beginning of the whole school worship a time reflection and quiet is encouraged as the children come into the hall and sit down in silence. A cross and candles etc. are displayed on the worship table.

At the beginning of lunchtime, a prayer is led by the Head Boy and Girl.

At the end of the school day the school prayer is said before the children leave.

Within each classroom space there is a prayer space built around a chair with a different focus in each classroom. Each 6 weeks the chairs rotate round so that these remain a fresh thought and initiate conversation they are based on the Jumping Fish resource "Pause for Reflection "

#### Appendix 2

## Other Faiths

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith, stance and culture showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. We celebrate all faiths and cultures through worship at special times of the year and through visits to different places of worship, this is further supported through the RE curriculum.

#### Resources

A wide selection of resources are held within the Head Teachers office.

A selection of artefacts are available within the RE resource area.

The table and cloth/runners are held in the hall as are the candles.

Collective worship materials are all accessible through the staff area "Hall music." The PowerPoint materials are also available through this area to support collective worship and celebration assemblies.

Music is stored in the unit in the hall.

Curtains and posters are stored in the Hall.

#### Evaluation, Monitoring and Review

The Collective Worship File is maintained, evidence that the acts of worship are generally compatible with the requirements of the policy and to inform our learning and planning for further developments. Within the file there are regular evaluations of acts of Collective Worship which assist with future planning and delivery. This will be achieved by asking children, teachers, or a class to reflect on the worship and these evaluations are part of the ongoing monitoring of Collective Worship at staff meetings.

The Faith Committee regularly evaluates collective worship providing feedback.

Collective worship will be monitored by discussion at staff and governor meetings. The discussion will include:

- 1) Review of content and methodology
- 2) Suitability for age, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, groupings, leadership
- 3) Links to curriculum and classroom experience
- 4) Resources and budget
- 5) INSET

The Collective Worship Policy will be reviewed every three years. Foundation Governors should attend worship for monitoring purposes and subsequently meet with the Worship Coordinator.

## Single Equality Duty

At All Saints we are committed to ensure that there is equality for all and therefore we follow these points:

- All learners are of equal value.
- We recognise and respect differences.
- We foster positive attitudes and relationships, and a shared sense of cohesion and belonging.
- We aim to reduce and remove inequalities and barriers that already exist.
- We base our practices on sound evidence and information.
- We formulate and publish objectives **at least every four years**, specific and measurable objectives, based on the evidence we have collected and published.

Emma Johnson (Collective Worship lead)

#### Worship Format

#### Appendix 1

#### Worship Table

Table set with cloth and then runner reflecting the curtain and the colours of the church calendar. Wooden Cross placed on the table and Bible open on the verse.

Enter to music. Powerpoint of the value running

Three candles to represent God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Lit once everyone has entered whilst the opening welcome words are said.

#### Worship

The session relates to the three symbols of:

The window = learning (story)

The mirror = reflecting (Talk partners or quiet thought)

The door = responding (Prayer)

Song if appropriate

Closing message is given "And remember as we leave to continue our journey of learning that. "Whatever you do work at it with all your heart.as working for the Lord."

Candles are blown out.

Messages are given. This allows for the distinction between worship and assembly.

Prefects leave.

Children leave to music as each class is ready.

#### Worship Singing held on Thursdays.

Table set up in the same way Candle lit and cross on display.

Learning of three songs carried out and then a prayer.

Closing statement

Candles blown out.

Prefects leave.

Children leave to music as each class is ready.

## Friday Celebration Worship

This celebrates the children's achievements both in and outside school. The children enter the hall to a piece of modern music with a celebration theme. Teachers select one individual to receive All Saints Superstar Award and letters are sent out earlier in the week to invite the family of these children. These winners will sit at the front with their teacher and their success is celebrated by all. They are recognised further by having their photograph taken for H2H newsletter and also sitting on a special table at lunchtime with a friend of their choice. Awards from outside of school are given as are other whole school awards such as top rocker, top spellers, attendance award etc.

Prayers are intercessions written by a specific year group and read by them. The Head Boy and Girl lead the school in the Lord's Prayer.

## Lunchtime Prayer

Bless us o God as we sit together.

Bless the food we eat today.

Bless the hands that made the food

Bless us o God Amen

#### Night Time Prayer

Lord keep us safe this night.

Secure from all our fears

May angels guard us while we sleep.

Until morning light appears Amen

#### School Prayer

Lord,

Please guide us to be successful learners,

Help us to grow in confidence.

and give us the strength to be responsible.

Remind us to always be thankful for our school family.

Guide us, in inspiring a passion for learning.

And help us to show respect to everyone around us.

Encourage us in all that we do to have high aspirations.

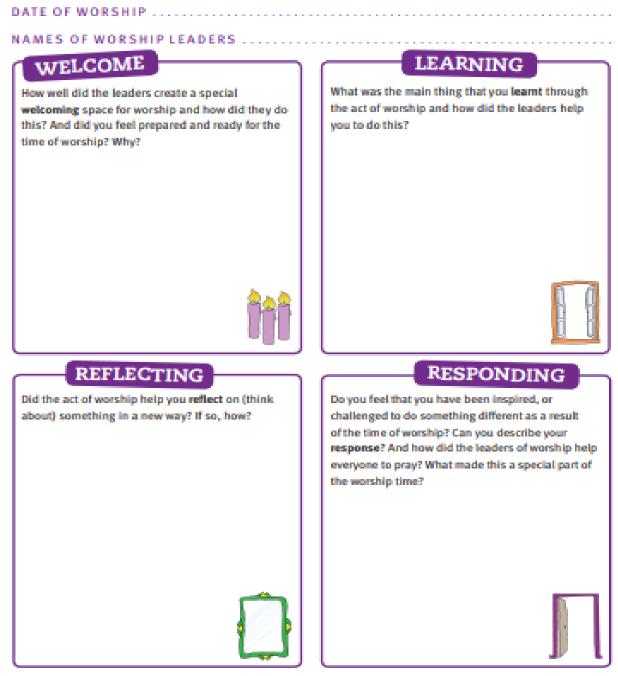
And to never forget,

Whatever we do

to work at it with all of our heart.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit Amen

## **EVALUATING WORSHIP**



And finally.... are there any suggestions that you could make that would help the worship leaders about any of the four elements of worship?