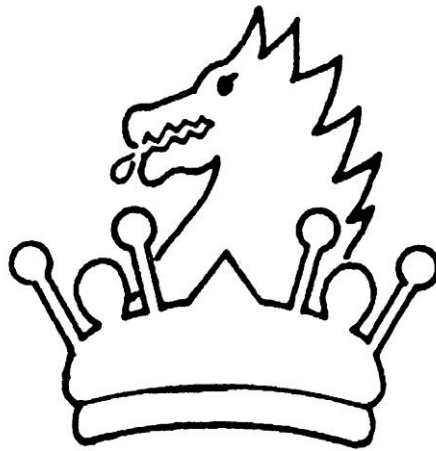


**WILLERSEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**



Collective Worship Policy

'We learn together through faith, fun and friendship.'

May 2019

WILLERSEY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The Aim of Worship

The daily act of Worship will be central to the life of the school. It will be of the highest quality and an integral part of the school day.

It will:

- give the children an opportunity to pray for others and to share those prayers with the school community during worship if appropriate'
- Create a sense of fellowship within school when the whole school is together, and provide a time to share with those around us the things we have been doing, our thoughts and ideas.
- Provide a time when pupils can worship in an honest and open atmosphere
- Encourage a reflective approach to aspects of children's lives, and help children develop a sense of "awe and wonder" at the world around them.
- Heighten sensitivity so that pupils are more aware of the search for meaning in life, and to develop a spiritual dimension to their lives and personal relationships.
- Enable pupils to express their responses to worship in a variety of ways, including music, dance, drama, art and craft, poetry, stories and prose.
- Provide a time and opportunity for thanksgiving and to enjoy the unity which derives from sharing love, joy, hope, friendship, acceptance, fear, anguish and forgiveness.
- Develop an awareness of and a concern for the needs of others as well as personal needs.
- Develop awareness that the needs and desires of the individual must sometimes be sacrificed in the interests of the majority.
- Help our pupils develop common attitudes, standards and values such as self-discipline, and respect for others.
- Give our children the experience of being active members of a caring community by fostering an atmosphere of love, kindness and security.
- Give children an opportunity to pray for others and to share those prayers with the school community during worship if appropriate

The Act of Collective Worship

Collective Worship at Willersey Church of England Primary School shall be wholly or mainly of a broadly-based Christian character. Although broadly Christian, acts of Worship should build a respect for other faiths and cultures.

Responsibility for worship is a matter for the whole school – staff, governors, parents and, especially, children. Within the framework of this policy we will actively encourage and enable pupils to plan and lead worship.

All pupils, with the exception of those whose parents have formally withdrawn them from collective worship, will attend the daily act of worship. Children and adults are invited to join

in with the fellowship of worship time and to learn from this time together and reflect on the teaching and input if they wish.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from worship. Pupils withdrawn will be supervised and appropriate work set for them by their class teacher. Parents are notified of their right of withdrawal in the school prospectus.

The act of worship may take the form of a single act of worship with the whole school together, or separate worship times for each class. It is usually timetabled to take place at 11.30am (12.00 noon on Mondays in the Church). Each act of worship will usually include hymn(s), prayer, and a central element – sometimes an idea, focus, story, drama, talk or some other method for putting across the theme for that occasion.

Responsibility for worship is a matter for the whole school; staff, governors, parents and, especially, the children. Within the framework of this policy we will actively encourage and enable pupils to plan and lead worship.

Each Act of Worship will be carefully planned. This includes 'Roots and Fruits' resources. A record is kept of each assembly, and includes a brief evaluation. The worship leader will note and act upon any issues arising from these evaluations.

The Christian values and themes on which the 'Roots and Fruits' materials are based are: Generosity, Compassion, Courage, Forgiveness, Friendship, Respect, Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Justice, Service, Truthfulness.

Our school core Christian values (and associated Bible verses) are:

Courage: *'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'* Joshua 1:9

Compassion: *'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience,'* Colossians 3:12

Friendship: *'Encourage one another and build each other up.'* 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Truthfulness: *'Tell the truth to each other.'* Zechariah 8:16

Respect: *'Do to others as you would have them do to you.'* Mathew 7:12

Creativity:

'Work hard and cheerfully at all you do' Colossians 3:23-24

'Whatever you do, do well,' Ecclesiastes 9:10-11

Reference is made to these values whenever appropriate to aid reflection and to encourage the school community. These values are at the heart of our worship and the heart of everything we do.

Acts of Worship should be regularly monitored by the staff, governors, Bishop's Visitor and the children for the contribution it is making to the whole curriculum and to the pupil's moral and spiritual development. Opportunities should be available for discussion and to set improvements, if required, in place.

We invite members of the wider community to join the worship wherever possible.

The school is invited to take part in a family service at St. Peter's church on occasions.

The leader for worship is the Headteacher.

The leader's responsibilities shall be:

- To ensure that the policy for collective worship is followed.
- To oversee the 4 year pattern for worship themes, ensuring that the themes are adhered to and that the record for collective worship is completed regularly.
- To advise other staff and visitors on presentation and resources.
- To gather and order resources for collective worship.
- To be aware of local events, festivities, celebrations and activities that might be relevant to the act of worship in school.

Resources

There are a variety of resources available to those who are leading worship in school. For example, 'Home School Values,' 'Jack in the Box' and the 'Values Reflection Journal.' Further resources are available on loan from the Diocesan RE centre in Gloucester.

The arrangements for and nature of Collective Worship are made by the Governing Body in accordance with the Trust Deed, and will include material from the Anglican Tradition, and will follow statutory requirements in place at that time.

Review

This policy was re-written in May 2019 and will continue to be reviewed annually by the Headteacher, teaching staff and governors.

This policy is operated in line with statement of vision and ethos of Willersey C of E Primary School and its Equal Opportunities Policy.

Agreed by the Curriculum Committee

Signed:

Date:

Approved by the Governing Body:

Signed:

Date:

Date of Review: