



Wycliffe Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



Ratified by the governing body: Jul 2025

To be reviewed: Jul 2027

Vision Statement

We nurture an aspirational family of hard-working, respectful individuals who work collaboratively to have a lifelong love of learning.

“Life in all its fullness” (John 10:10)

Our vision is to ensure that our school family are happy and fulfilled in a creative learning environment. This is flexible and caters to individual needs while developing a life-long love for learning through which all members can flourish. We nurture an aspirational family of hard-working, respectful individuals who work collaboratively.

WYCLIFFE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Staff and Governors of Wycliffe Church of England Primary School, in accordance with our Trust Deed and with the statutory requirements, place Collective Worship at the centre of the school’s daily life. It is a time when we come together to express our School Vision, share Christian values and experiences in our everyday lives, to develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of our pupils. Collective Worship at Wycliffe CE Primary School is inclusive, invitational and inspiring. The structure, planning, evaluation, participation, collaboration, and inspection of worship are all taken seriously by the school with a designated Collective Worship leader and Christian Distinctiveness leader in place.

Guidance from the Church of England is used when planning our Collective Worship.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Collective%20Worship%20Guidance%2018052021.pdf>

Organisation of Collective Worship

Worship is organised on a whole school and class-based basis. It is led by different members of the teaching staff, a range of visiting speakers and also the pupils in school. This enables us to provide an exciting and varied approach towards our collective worship and greatly enhances the school’s Christian character.

The whole school attends St Paul’s Church to deliver services and to reinforce our Christian foundation.

The Collective Worship Leader produces a half termly plan for collective worship, which includes the themes to be developed, the visiting speakers and the members of staff responsible for leading Collective Worship.

Once a term, the Collective Worship Council plan and lead a collective worship.

The weekly Collective Worship timetable is usually organised as follows:

	Main feature of worship
Monday	British Values and Christian Values
Tuesday	Liturgical
Wednesday	Visiting speaker from The Zephaniah Trust or Open the Book
Thursday	Christian Values
Friday	Class Based Worship- Pupil Led * Celebration Assembly

The Nature of Collective Worship at our School

Communal and Personal Reflection

Collective Worship at our school is a time when staff and children meet together and have the opportunity to reflect on the non-material dimensions of our lives together in the school community and as individuals. It is not regarded simply as a time to exchange information or deal with organisational issues. All staff are invited to attend collective worship.

Praise and prayer

We give children the opportunity to develop spiritually in the gathering together for daily worship. Opportunities are available to praise the awe and wonder of God and the beauty of the world God has created, to pray together and to learn about the teachings of both the Old and New Testament with particular emphasis on the teachings of Jesus and Anglican traditions.

Life Application

Children are given opportunity to consider what is important in our lives, about beliefs and values, and application of their beliefs to practical situations in their lives. Our half termly Christian Value is shared with children, staff and parents to enable this to be explored further. They are taught to understand and respect the beliefs of other cultures and religions.

Celebration & Achievement

Worship takes place through a variety of media such as Bible teaching, stories, songs, poetry, drama etc. Class led worship is used as an opportunity for pupils to lead their own worship. Once a week we gather to share experiences and achievements with the whole-school community including with parents and friends.

Family Community

Through our daily Worship we aim to bring an awareness of what it means to be part of a community which cares for each other, for God and for the environment. In doing so, we hope that pupils will develop the ability to explore issues for themselves, be able to reflect upon and learn from experiences and develop a sense of awe and wonder about the wider world whilst understanding their role and responsibilities to their local community.

Equal Opportunities

Staff and Governors are committed to ensuring that opportunities for worship are relevant to all pupils and pay due regard to their ages, abilities and interests. We aim to recognise the equality of each child in God's sight, whatever the child's gender, race, physical or mental ability. Pupils currently take part in collective worship and have opportunities to lead worship, however each parent has the right to withdraw their child for religious reasons.

Special Education Needs

Staff and Governors attempt to ensure that materials and subject matter used in Collective Worship are appropriate for the range of abilities of all pupils in school.

Planning

Collective Worship planning is outlined on a Half Term Plan and includes several features:

- biblical theme
- Anglican prayer
- visitors
- class based worship
- adult responsible for worship each day

Training takes place for leaders of collective worship to ensure it is inclusive, invitational, and inspiring.

Spirituality at Wycliffe

At Wycliffe, we believe that spirituality is at the heart of who we are and how we grow together. For us, spirituality is about developing a deep sense of connection: with each other, with nature, with our world, and with something greater than ourselves.

Our school's definition of spirituality reflects this:

" Spirituality connects us with each other, with nature and with our precious planet. It can make us more aware of things we have in common while celebrating our differences. It can bring peace, harmony and meaning to our lives.

Exploring spirituality is for anyone and everyone; it is a personal journey; an opportunity to explore and capture unexpected moments that fill you with awe, wonder and reflection. We develop our spirituality creatively at Wycliffe through exploring and understanding values, feelings, emotions, imagination, and fascination beyond the tangible."

In our **Collective Worship**, we create a calm and meaningful space where children and adults can pause, reflect, and grow spiritually. Through storytelling, prayer, music, silence, and discussion, we provide opportunities to:

- Reflect on values
- Explore big questions about life, meaning, and purpose
- Celebrate the beauty and wonder of the world around us
- Develop empathy by listening to others and learning from different perspectives
- Be still, listen, and notice what matters deeply to each of us

Collective Worship is a time to nurture curiosity, creativity, and emotional awareness, in line with our Christian foundation and inclusive ethos. While rooted in the Christian tradition, our approach is open and welcoming to all – helping every child on their own unique spiritual journey.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Strategies staff currently use for assessing the outcomes of collective worship include:

- observation of children's reaction and participation during worship
- feedback from children in class – pupil voice interviews
- worship leader/council's termly evaluation
- observation by Governors
- observations of the quality of worship by the Collective Worship team/Collective Worship Leader

Support from our local Anglican Church

St Paul's Church is actively supportive of the Worship in school. St Paul's clergy regularly work alongside the Collective Worship leader to plan and monitor Collective Worship.

Review

This policy has been written following the Collective Worship guidance issued by the Diocese of Leeds in June 2016.