



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**  
**2022-25**

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

Collective worship is a valued, integral part of daily school life for all pupils at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School.

The main aim of collective worship at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School is for it to be meaningful and relevant for all pupils and staff, whatever their faith background, set within the Anglican Christian tradition of the school.

Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our mission statement:

*'All God's children learning and achieving together in faith with compassion.'*

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements 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.

Furthermore, through collective worship we provide the opportunity for pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; we encourage active participation and response through listening, questioning, exploring and reflecting. This contributes to promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every child where the worth and value of every single person in the school community can be celebrated. This enables the school to develop a community spirit, promote shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.

A broad and flexible approach is adopted for collective worship, where the whole community can experience the living expression of Christian worship as honoured through the school's Anglican ethos. This is set within the context of the corporate and inclusive community of our school, which values each individual regardless of age, sex, ability, background or religion.

### **Christian Values**

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School promote the core values of love, compassion, trust and forgiveness; through these broad descriptors we explore and promote the wider values of fairness, respect and tolerance of others, integrity, compassion, honesty and self worth. These values are embodied in the New Commandment that Jesus gave us:

John 13:34-35 "...love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples".

We also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.



## **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The daily act of collective worship at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School complies with the school's Trust Deed, which requires worship to be, 'consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England.'

In line with current legislation and advice collective worship is

- daily and for all pupils.
- broadly Christian
- flexible enough to encompass the age, aptitude, faith and background of all the children at the school.
- provided in a variety of settings, groupings and timings, and with a variety of leaders.

We recognise the right of withdrawal of pupils from worship at the request of parents, but currently enjoy full pupil participation and full support of the school community.

## **AIMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AND ASSEMBLY**

Collective worship and assembly are not the same thing but it is usual for an act of collective worship to take place during an assembly, either as a small part of the assembly or its entirety. It is of utmost importance that collective worship is seen to be distinct from those parts of the assembly that are concerned solely with administration.

### **Worship**

Values Education

We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence, leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. Collective worship creates an atmosphere in which God is both normal and natural and aims to explore and enjoy the rituals and traditions of the Christian faith (particularly the Anglican tradition).

Worship assists pupils in developing a sense of awe and wonder and promotes sensitivity to the mysteries of life.

Worship creates a special atmosphere to allow for spiritual reflection, silence, prayer, praise and response.

Worship points pupils to an awareness of God.

Collective worship at our school endeavours to encourage worship together rather than apart (whilst taking into account the multi-cultural nature of our school community).

Collective worship is a context for allowing an individual to develop a faith to live by and make a spiritual response freely if it is appropriate for them.



## **Assembly**

An assembly is a gathering of part or all of the school and evokes a sense of belonging. It develops a sense of community and shared values, enhancing the ethos of the school. Assembly is concerned with administrative and other matters about school life,

Assembly is an opportunity to celebrate achievements of individuals and groups, giving a sense of value and worth.

In assembly we consider the needs of others and the environment as well as encouraging/supporting charitable works.

Assembly aims to be challenging and inspiring, and foster a thought provoking atmosphere.

## **CURRENT PRACTICE**

At St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School a wide range of people are encouraged to lead collective worship. All teachers currently take an active role in leading worship with the Headteacher, Collective Worship Lead practitioner, Pupil Worship Council and Assistant Headteacher taking a prominent role. A wide variety of pupil-led worship is actively encouraged.

The Revd Preb. Ben Whitmore (vicar) from St Bartholomew's C of E Church is a frequent visitor to the school and leads worship.

Parents, governors, faith community representatives and other community groups are encouraged to be involved when and where appropriate. Visitors are invited to lead acts of worship, or to commemorate special festivals or school occasions. Celebration Worship take place every Friday and are led by the Headteacher or a member of the senior management team. Parents and governors are also invited to these. Value awards, decided upon by teachers and other school staff and children are presented at this worship.

Each class within the school has its own unique worship area. This area is often utilised during classroom worship: it may include a cross, candle, globe, Bible, prayer book, thought for the week etc. Children are encouraged to write prayers to go into the class prayer book.

A number of displays around the school are of a Christian nature and may be an expression of children's spirituality and worship.



## Weekly Worship

The pattern for worship each week at present is as follows:

	EARLY YEARS	KEY STAGE 1	KEY STAGE 2
MONDAY	Class based worship	KS1 Worship HALL – 10:15am Headteacher/ Assistant Headteacher	KS2 Worship HALL – 9.10am Headteacher/ Assistant Headteacher
TUESDAY	Class based worship	Songs of worship and praise –  HALL-10:15am	Songs of worship and praise  HALL – 9:10am
WEDNESDAY	CELEBRATION Worship– AM and PM Parents invited	Class led, pupil led or staff led worship HALL – 10:15am	Class led, pupil led or staff led worship HALL- 9:10am
THURSDAY	Class based worship	Worship led by clergy HALL – 10:15am	Songs of worship and praise – 9:10am KS co-ordinator/ Worship co-ordinator
FRIDAY	CELEBRATION Worship– AM and PM Parents invited	Celebration Worship 10:15am Parents invited	Celebration Worship 9:10am Parents invited

No worship programme can ever be entirely pre-planned. There will always be the spontaneous moment or occasion when it is important spiritually to focus on school, local national or international incidents.

### Other daily acts

Reflection and prayer at the end of each school day and before lunchtime

The lighting of the Trinity candle at the beginning of worship to symbolise the light of Jesus and create a calm, reflective atmosphere

The sharing of The Peace

The Lord's Prayer

5 minutes silent daily reflection time



## **Worship in church**

In addition, the whole school worships in St Bartholomew's Church at Harvest, in addition to the main Christian celebrations throughout the year: Easter, Pentecost and Christmas. The Clergy and children play a key role in the planning and presentation of all of these services. Parents and friends are invited on these occasions.

Children also visit the church as part of the RE curriculum which also enhances their worship experience.

EYFS, KS1 and KS2 perform their Christmas performances, for the parents and friends, in the church offering another worship opportunity.

All year groups are encouraged to attend the 24 hour prayer room, which encourages quiet reflection through a variety of activities. This runs for one week a year. Parents with strong church link prepare and deliver activities throughout the week which aim to further enhance spirituality and personal growth and reflection.

## **MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The Foundation Governors have responsibility to ensure the Trust Deed of the school is honoured, in conjunction with the Local Governing Board, Headteacher, staff and school community.

Collective worship at St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School is co-ordinated by the Collective Worship Lead Practitioner, Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team.

A termly plan for worship is devised by the Headteacher and Collective Worship Lead Practitioner. There is a new theme introduced to the school by the Headteacher/DHT at the beginning of each week, these encompass a Value of the month. The school then explores elements of this value through a variety of methods and groupings throughout the week.

Every member of staff records details of acts of worship they have led in their class. This ensures a coherent programme for collective worship, which has continuity of Christian teaching and experience.

The Collective Worship Lead Practitioner also has responsibility for auditing and keeping records of resources and ensuring they are accessible to pupils and staff as appropriate.

The Collective Worship Lead Practitioner keeps in touch with current developments in the subject and ensures that worship is prioritised on the School Development Plan to allow for INSET and resource development.



Policy dated.....5.9.22.....

Chair of Governors.....*[Signature]*.....

CEO.....*[Signature]*.....

Policy to be reviewed: Autumn Term 2025



ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP TIMETABLE

	EARLY YEARS	KEY STAGE 1	KEY STAGE 2
MONDAY	Class based worship	KS1 Worship HALL – 10:15am Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher	KS2 Worship HALL – 9.10am Headteacher/ Deputy Headteacher
TUESDAY	Class based worship	Worship led by clergy or Classroom worship. HALL – 10:15am	Worship led by clergy or Classroom worship. HALL – 9:10am
WEDNESDAY	CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY – AM and PM Parents invited	Class led or staff led worship HALL – 10:15am	Class led or staff led worship HALL- 9:10am
THURSDAY	Class based worship	Songs of worship and praise – HALL- 10:15am	Songs of worship and praise – 9:10am KS co-ordinator/ Worship co-ordinator
FRIDAY	Class based worship	Celebration Worship 10:15am Parents invited	Celebration Worship 9:10am Parents invited