



Carlton VC C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy 2022/2023

Approved by: Mrs J Bevis and
Governing Body **Date:** 12/12/22

Edited by: Mrs J Bevis **Date :** 28/11/22

Last reviewed on:

Next review due by: December 2024

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

FROM THE INSTRUMENT OF GOVERNMENT

Carlton VC C of E Primary School aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

INTENT

The intent of Collective Worship at Carlton School is to introduce pupils to worship in a manner appropriate to their age, aptitude and family background and drawing upon the richness of the Anglican and other Christian traditions.

It is not the purpose of Collective Worship in Church Schools to actively evangelise. There is, inevitably, an aspect of any act of worship that encourages those participating to feel part of the Christian faith community. This is done, however, by including those present - not by using Collective Worship to campaign for some kind of commitment which is inappropriate in a school setting. Collective Worship is Collective not Corporate. In other words, it is something we do together but embracing a great variety of faith commitment.

Through our collective worship we aim to provide a caring and supportive environment for children to:

- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and groups within the wider school community
- Grow in understanding of the feelings of other people in very day situations and beliefs
- Explore the language which people use to express their feelings
- Deepen their sense of wonder and awe about the world around them
- Grow in confidence when making a presentation to the group or whole school]
- Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimulus
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each person's life stance, whether it be religious or not
- Promote British values of tolerance and respect for all faiths and cultures in modern-day Britain.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP SHOULD:

1. Be daily for all children
2. Be an act of collective worship
3. Involve the children regularly
4. Be monitored by the staff
5. Be enjoyable
6. Be suitable for all abilities
7. Be age appropriate

8. Be appropriate to the background of the children
9. Involve the community but still be controlled by the school
10. Allow time for reflection.

THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CONTENT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Collective Worship will be Christian. Other religions will be treated with respect and may be the focus at certain times of year.
- Collective Worship, often known as Assembly, will take place each day. On Mondays, the Church Open the Book Group lead an interactive collective worship and on Tuesdays the local Vicar leads collective worship. Worship through Aerobics Assemblies and Celebration Assemblies will be incorporated into Collective Worship in Carlton School.
- When defining themes for collective worship, the age, aptitude and ability of the children will be considered, as also their backgrounds- those who attend church regularly, those from other faiths or from a secular background.
- All members of staff will be encouraged to lead the collective worship on set days. The staff can involve whole classes or smaller groups when leading the assemblies.
- Themes will be decided termly or half termly and will be chosen reflecting a wide variety of approaches. Some of these might relate to work currently being undertaken by children in class. Assembly themes can be found listed below.
- On the first day of each term there will be an assembly to welcome children back and embrace new children into the school community. At the end of the year there will be a special Leavers service.
- Collective Worship Ambassadors in Year 6 will help to plan and carry out collective worship over the course of the year.
- When appropriate, Collective Worship will engage with any event, local, national or world, of which the children may be aware, and offer appropriate worship in response. There is room for spontaneity.
- Collective worship will make use of a cross and/or candle as a focal point, and other Christian artefacts when appropriate, and Christian hymns, songs and prayers.
- The Vicar will come into school and lead assembly on a regular basis, at least once a month though currently this takes place once a week. The church will provide further involvement through the 'Open The Book' assemblies which will be held weekly and lead by a local group from Churches Together in Harrold and Carlton.

- Whilst most acts of Collective Worship will be held in the school building, once a term an Act of worship will be held at St Mary's Church, Carlton.
- From time to time it may be appropriate for visitors representing charities, organizations or projects to lead, or contribute to Collective Worship.
- The children will enter and leave the hall to a piece of music. The children will be taught hymns on a regular basis using tapes and CDs.
- On certain occasions, parents and visitors will be welcomed into school to join with the children in their act of collective worship.
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the collective act of worship.
- Collective Worship is non-curriculum time and should connect with, and reinforce, the curriculum but not be constrained by it.
- A selection of Bibles, stories, PSHE materials and teacher resources are available within the Resource area.

Themes for a two year rolling programme are:

<u>Autumn term 2022</u>	<u>Spring Term 2022</u>	<u>Summer Term 2022</u>
New school year Christmas	New year, new beginnings. Easter	Changes through life/ Moving on.
Values 2022: Thoughtfulness Generosity and Kindness Freedom and Unity Trust	Values 2022: Perseverance Justice Understanding and Tolerance.	Caring for the environment. Values 2022: Love Service Truthfulness Patience
Values 2023: Cooperation Thankfulness and Appreciation Peace Care and Compassion	Values 2023: Hope Courage Humility	Values 2023: Forgiveness Friendship Responsibility Respect and reverence.

THE STYLE OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- Collective Worship is an opportunity for children to explore the spiritual dimension of their world.
- Collective Worship will include stillness as well as words, stories, pictures and symbols, prayers and hymns, songs and music. There will be room for questions and answers - and sometimes the admission that there are no answers.
- There will be expressions of thankfulness, praise and joy. Feelings of sadness and loss will be included when appropriate.
- Collective Worship should allow ethical and moral questions to be explored but never be a time simply for corporate discipline!
- Collective Worship allows opportunities for corporate information sharing. Care will be taken to differentiate between worship and notices.
- Collective Worship should have a clear beginning, shape and ending.

WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies follow the following weekly pattern:

Mondays: Open the Book Assembly with prayers and hymns along a particular theme. Taken by members of the local church.

Tuesdays: Rev. Peter or Rev. Jack take a service with the children.

Wednesdays: Classroom based worship with the teacher leading a prayer and engaging the children in a class assembly along the theme of the value for that month.

Thursdays: Singing Assembly. The children are taught hymns and songs around the values that are being learnt about that month.

Friday: Celebration Assembly. The children are praised for their learning and hard work for the week. Golden Book, Value Leaves, Times Table Rockstar Certificates and Reading Champion Certificates are celebrated.

IMPACT: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A record of assemblies is kept and staff review Collective Worship once a term. The Governing Body will receive a report once a year and the Collective Worship policy will be reviewed regularly by the Governing Body. Collective Worship Ambassadors and pupil voice will help to shape collective worship in school.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

At Carlton School we evaluate our collective worship against some of the following:

- Involvement, enjoyment, attention, reaction of the pupils
- The growth of respect and tolerance within the school community
- Positive response to shared experience
- An atmosphere which matches the theme
- A contribution to individual and community sense of well being
- A sense of occasion
- Good order
- Staff affirmation
- A sense of challenge
- A place in the overall plan of the school
- Enrichment of pupil's experience