



Collective Worship Policy

Policy Approved	November 2023
Review Date	November 2025
Responsible Staff	R. Flanders
Governor	Rev. C. Gaudion

Vision and Values

Vision Statement

Let your light shine.

Access and ambition for all to enjoy life in all its fullness.

Foundational Scripture

Matthew 5: 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Our school values of friendship, thankfulness, hope, unity, compassion, forgiveness, justice, endurance and trust are rooted in the Sermon on the Mount and are the basis of all relationships, decisions and direction of our school.

School Values

Our school values are at the heart of our everything we do in school. We aim to provide high quality learning opportunities which help foster these values within children. Our values are

Friendship

Thankfulness

Hope

Unity

Compassion

Forgiveness

Justice

Endurance

Trust

At Hoole Church of England Primary School, we aim to help children become:

- **Enthusiastic, curious, independent thinkers – motivated, reflective and resilient learners** who persevere when faced with challenges and who celebrate their achievements and those of their friends;
- **Respectful, compassionate and kind friends** who are able to work with others, forgive, trust, support and communicate with others;
- **Confident, thankful individuals** who understand their own worth; how to stay safe and healthy and how to manage feelings and relationships;
- **Tolerant and responsible citizens** who show respect for others, and a commitment to appreciate and contribute positively to the world around them.

1 Aims and purpose

1.1 The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to teach children how to worship.

1.2 The aims and purpose of collective worship are aligned to our school Vision & Values.

2 Collective worship

2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves the school coming together and participating in worship. We expect everyone to take an active part in the worship.

2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

2.3 While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we will also share other religious traditions which are represented in the school and the wider community. Collective worship also encompasses aspects of the SCARF PSHE programme.

3 Organisation of collective worship

3.1 Our daily act of collective worship is arranged for whole school, Key Stage and Class Based and is planned each half term.

3.2 We conduct worship in a dignified and respectful way and teach children that worship time is a period for calm reflection. We regard it as a special and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere through music and other faith symbols to create a focal point for all.

3.3 The Head Teacher, other members of staff and pupils conduct worship, but sometimes local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups conduct them instead. Children lead the response to gather in the act of worship.

3.4 We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and we reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. A range of Faith linked resources are used to support our worship calendar.

3.5 Our worship reflects the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in worship by showing their work to the other children and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Worship offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of schools. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised. Hoole Church of England Primary School is a successful school and we shall celebrate the successes of all the children in our school.

3.6 Where possible, we invite parents to worship on a weekly basis and we encourage them to attend, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the achievements of our children.

3.7 We welcome governors' attendance at our worship at any time.

4 Right of withdrawal

4.1 We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents need to make a request in writing but do not have to explain or give reasons for their decision.

4.2 The Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 It is the role of foundation governors, including Reverend Craig Gaudion, to support the Worship Leader in their responsibility for collective worship, to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship, working in conjunction with the Headteacher.

5.2 This policy is reviewed every two years unless changes are required more frequently as a result of changes to local, national or Diocesan directives.