

St. Francis CE (Aided) Junior School



Collective Worship Policy

Our Vision

Through our planned curriculum, enrichment activities and school ethos, we aspire to develop our children into responsible global citizens who will be able to enjoy fully our diverse world and have many choices and opportunities open to them.

We hope that by Year 7 our children are able to shine their light further into the community (rather than hiding it), while maintaining a strong sense of self-identity, valuing who they are and showing humility and endurance in lifelong learning.

We take inspiration from Matthew 5: 14-16:

⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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Reviewed: March 2024

Review: March 2025

Approved by: Governing Body/Curriculum Committee

At St. Francis Church of England (Aided) Junior School we are driven by our deep-rooted Christian commitment to the children's well-being and education. We want to develop a safe and exciting environment where all God's children flourish through opportunities and collaboration in a nurturing environment to become lifelong learners.

Our Mission Statement

The school actively promotes friendship through teaching the Christian values of forgiveness, **justice and peace**. We promote the following key values through our curriculum;

HOPE

We value: Being able to change things for the better and always endeavour to show respect for all. We hope that children will develop good interpersonal skills and always show empathy and tolerance towards others

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you're doing the impossible." St Francis.

WISDOM

We value: A well developed sense of right and wrong and children who have the courage and ability to make independent choices.

"Where there is charity and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance," St Francis.

THANKFULNESS

We value: Creative thinkers and we strive to help our pupils develop a positive outlook and understand the contribution that individuals can make to whole school life through the use of their gifts. We give thanks for having collective pride in our environment and personal and collective achievement.

"For if the willingness is there the gift is acceptance according to what one has, not according to what one does not have." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Children are actively encouraged to be stakeholders in their own success through these Christian values. We promote a caring, Christian learning environment where all children are given the opportunity to reach their full potential. (September 2018)

Introduction

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our vision and associated values of Thankfulness, Wisdom and Hope and celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and directors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

What is Collective Worship?

Legislation requires schools, including Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools, to conduct daily acts of Collective Worship. However, the legislation does not define what is meant by the term 'Collective Worship'.

"... Worship in schools will necessarily be of a different character from worship amongst a group with beliefs in common. The legislation reflects this difference in referring to 'collective worship' rather than 'corporate worship'. (DfE Circular 1/94 para 57)

Corporate worship assumes a shared set of beliefs and values, i.e. a worshipping congregation meeting on a Sunday, where the worship is confessional and evangelistic (to spread the Christian gospel by public preaching or personal witness).

Collective worship, in recognising the collectivity of all participants, can make no such assumption that all have the same beliefs and values. Collective Worship should be: *"Appropriate to the family backgrounds of the pupils and their ages and aptitudes."* (DfE Circular 1/94 p.22)

Collective Worship gives pupils and school staff the opportunity to:

- Engage in an act of community
- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Be still and reflect • Explore the big questions of life and respond to national events
- Foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness
- Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Christ through Biblical texts
- Affirm Christian values and attitudes
- Share each other's joys and challenges
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar.

In line with the requirements of the requirements of the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) schedule, we aim to ensure that collective worship:

- a) Offers the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- b) Enables all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican/Methodist worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.

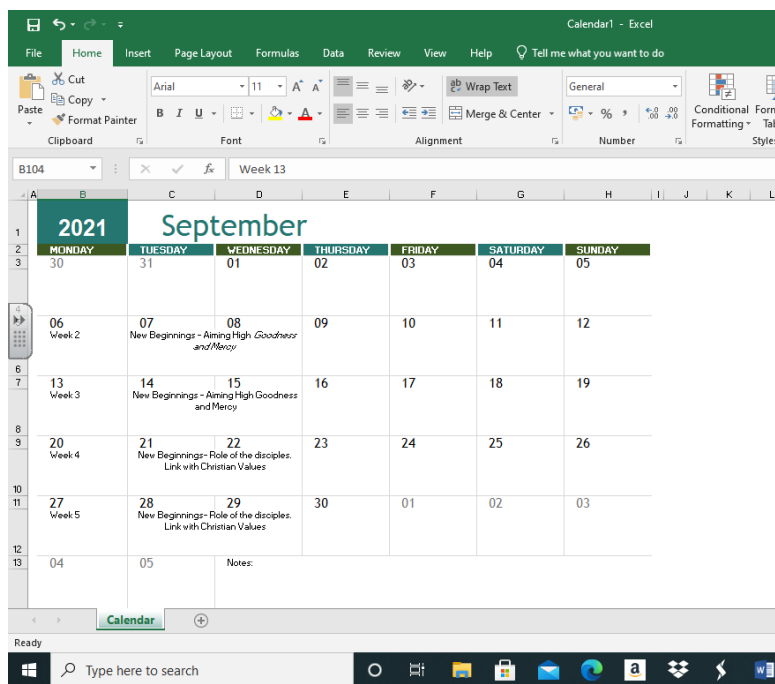
c) Helps pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God and its language.

d) Enables pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.

e) Encourages local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

- Exploring the Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Using the Bible for inspiration, stories and guidance
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Saints Days amongst ordinary days
- Learning and saying prayers from a number of sources, in particular the Lord's Prayer and the blessings in common use
- Singing a wide variety of hymns and songs from traditional to modern
- Experiencing Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection
- Using prayers from Common Worship
- Using Anglican sentences and responses at the beginning and end of worship
- Using Collects as a focus for worship
- Celebrating Eucharist Implementation

Collective worship is planned by R.E Co-Ordinator (B Pickett) and our Church representative. Our school plans are developed are the Anglican Calendar and links with the new PSCHE Planning.



We are mindful of the variation in personal spiritual styles and provide a range of creative opportunities including music, silence, symbolism, drama and use of IT.

4 stages of Collective Worship:

- Gather – we welcome the community, for example, (with music, liturgy and the lighting of a candle)
- Engage – we share, for example, (a Bible reading, followed by an activity to engage pupils with the Christian message)
- Respond – pupils, for example, (discuss, share, reflect, pray or sing)
- Send – we share, for example, (the message of the worship again and ask pupils to think about how they will affect their day / learning/ behaviour.

We close with liturgy, final prayer, music and the blowing out of candle)

Our Collective Worship is delivered by:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2:40pm Mrs Lakey	2:40pm Church Representative	2:40pm Church Representative	2:40pm Church Representative	12:35pm Team Leader