

## Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School

## **Collective Worship Policy**

| Prepared by                                 | Chris Grey (Headteacher)   |  |
|---|--|--|
| Approved by the<br>Committee/Governing body | Chris Grey (Headteacher) with the<br>support and approval of the Full<br>Governing Board |  |
| Signature of Chair of Governors             | n/a  |  |
| Date shared with governors                  | 3/10/2019  |  |
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# We live and work in harmony with love for one another so we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learners.

#### Introduction: Collective Worship at Great and Little Shelford CE (A) Primary School

In accordance with the law, as stated in the Education Reform Act 1988, we will provide for all the children to attend an act of collective worship each day.

The Governors statement on collective worship in this school is that it "must at all times be Christian worship compatible with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England".

The Act of Worship will therefore:

- provide an opportunity for the children to reflect upon God and to give Him honour
- help children discover their place in the world.
- highlight and nurture the spiritual dimension through experiencing worship.
- provide children with a vocabulary of worship and an experience of a wide variety of worship forms, including symbols and imagery.
- provide an opportunity to celebrate major, and some minor, Christian festivals.
- heighten awareness of the ultimate questions / realities of life and to provide the opportunity to reflect upon these. To support the search for meaning.
- enable children to appreciate their worth and value to God, and to the community, and to respect the integrity of all individuals as a child of God
- enable pupils to make effective use of silence in opportunities for reflection, contemplation, meditation and prayer.
- celebrate gifts, talents and achievements.
- establish, explore, and reinforce the common Christian values of the school community such as love, peace, kindness and compassion.
- foster a feeling of community and belonging in the school through a sharing of experiences and feelings.
- develop personal relationships and to encourage social development.
- provide an opportunity to empathise with the needs of others.
- provide an opportunity for children to become acquainted with people from the local and wider community, particularly the local church.
- encourage respect and care for God's creation by a positive attitude to both local and global environmental issues.
- foster feelings such as awe, wonder, thankfulness, mystery and joy.
- give memorable and enjoyable experiences.
- provide an opportunity to bring before God in prayer personal needs and those of others.
- share with participants some of the central teachings of the Christian faith at an appropriate level, and thereby give them the encouragement to explore their own beliefs and understanding of God within a Christian framework.

To reinforce our commitment to these acts of collective worship the teachers in the school will attend at least one assembly a week. Support staff are invited to attend an act of worship if they are in school at the right time; they are not expected to come in especially.

#### Weekly structure and themes

Collective Worship is organised as follows: -

| Monday    | 10:30-10:45<br>a.m.Collective worship led by a Church<br>Representative - rota of visiting church<br>personnel from the 3 local churches |  | Collective Worship themes grid<br>used (below)   |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| Tuesday   | Tuesday1:00-1:20<br>p.m.Collective act of worship led by the Headteacher<br>or class teachers  |  | Diocese of Ely Collective<br>Worship / Collective Worship<br>themes grid used (below)              |  |
| Wednesday | Wednesday1:00-1:20<br>p.m.Collective Worship led by the Headteacher or<br>class teachers   |  | Collective Worship themes grid<br>used (below) / Take 5 / Relax<br>Kids Meditation / Silent Prayer |  |
| Thursday  | Thursday1:00-1:20<br>p.m.Hymns of Faith (Worship through music) led by<br>teachers.  |  | Liturgical seasons and related hymns   |  |
| Friday    | 2.45-3.15<br>p.m.  | Celebration worship led by the Headteacher or<br>Senior Leader. (See Social Development Policy<br>for details). Each class presents and introduction<br>to the celebration worship twice per year. | Follow-up of weekly themes /<br>Diocese of Ely Collective<br>Worship theme covered on<br>Tuesday   |  |

Each collective worship session is structured as follows:

- 1. **Gather** enter to music (including instrumentalists, hymns, tracks); gathering statement led by pupil with response by school
- 2. Engage stimulus, discussion
- 3. **Respond** thinking, praying, mediating, hymn singing
- 4. **Send** sending statement led by pupil with response by school, music (including instrumentalists, hymns, tracks)

The act of worship always contains prayers and a focus for reflection. There is often a hymn or song. The children sing unaccompanied, are accompanied by instrumentalists or backing tracks. The children sometimes sing hymns to enter (gathering) and leave (sending) collective worship. At times, instrumentalists play during the gathering and sending.

Assembly teams from 3 local churches visit weekly in rotation to lead our collective worship. Their input complements the themes being discussed in school at the time.

The leader makes every effort to select and deliver the Christian message clearly and in a manner which is accessible to the children. A varied approach is essential and full use is made of audio-visual aids as well as the broad range of suitable assembly books available in school. The RE budget supports resourcing for Collective Worship resources, which allows for materials to be updated appropriately. The children hear stories read from the Bible, but modern versions that communicate the same message are often well used to significantly aid the children's understanding of the Bible itself.

To ensure a broad and balanced spiritual content to the assembly address, the Headteacher shares the draft plans with teaching staff in the termly planning meeting. The annual overview below summarises the long term planning of Collective Worship in the school.

|               | Suggested school<br>themes                            | Annual Services                    | School vision focus                | Liturgical Season themes and<br>Seasonal themes        |
|---------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
|               | Stories or themes<br>from the Old<br>Testament, links |                                    |                                    | Start of academic year                                 |
|               | between Judaism<br>and Christianity                   |                                    | We live and<br>work in             | International Day of Peace,<br>Autumn, seasonal change |
| 0             |   |                                    | harmony                            | Autumn, seasonal change                                |
| Ordinary Time | Take 5 – take notice!                                 | Harvest Service at St.<br>Mary's   |                                    | Harvest  |
| Tin           |   | Octo                               | ber Half Term                      |  |
| ы             | Appreciation of the                                   |                                    |                                    | All Saints, change of clocks                           |
|               | world God created<br>and man's                        |                                    | Creativity to                      | Festivals of light – Diwali,<br>Bonfire Night          |
|               | responsibility for conserving it. (link to            | Remembrance<br>Service at School   | Creativity - try<br>new things and | Remembrance  |
|               | Shelford Star –<br>Creativity)                        |                                    | improve                            | Seasonal change  |
| Advent        | Take 5 – take notice!                                 |                                    | Kindness-                          | Advent approaching                                     |
|               |   | Advent Service at<br>School        | imagine and                        | Advent Service to open RE Day                          |
| ent           |   |                                    | understand others                  | Advent (3)   |
| t             |   | Shelford Christmas<br>Day Service  |                                    | Advent (4)   |
| Christmas     | Christmas Holidays                                    |                                    |                                    |  |
| Epiphany      |   | Epiphany at School                 |                                    | Epiphany, Feast of St. Mary                            |
| 0             | Stories or themes<br>from the New<br>Testament        |                                    | NA711 1                            | New Year's Resolutions                                 |
| Ordin         | Take 5 – be active!                                   |                                    | With love for                      |  |
| nar           |   |                                    | one another                        |  |
| ary time      |   | Candlemas Service<br>at St. Mary's |                                    | Candlemas (presentation of Jesus at the temple)        |
|               |   |                                    |                                    |  |
|               |   | Febr                               | uary Half Term                     |  |
| Lent          | Take 5 – give to<br>others (Lenten<br>promises)       |                                    | Resilience – Push                  | Shrove Tuesday, As<br>Wednesday, Lent                  |
|               | promises  |                                    |                                    | Lenten promises  |
|               |   |                                    | yourself and don't                 | Jesus in the Desert                                    |
|               |   |                                    | give up!                           | Why live simply during Lent?                           |
|               |   |                                    |                                    | Temptation, spring                                     |

### **Collective Worship Themes:**

|               |   | Daily Holy Week<br>collective worship<br>Easter Service at All<br>Saints' |  | Holy week:<br>Up to Good Friday     |
|---------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
|               | Easter Holidays   |   |  |                                     |
| Eag           | Spreading God's<br>word – Acts of the<br>Apostles                         |   | Responsibility-                              | Easter Sunday, symbol of the<br>egg |
| stei          | Missionaries  |   | concentrate and                              |                                     |
| Eastertide    | Saints  |   | work hard                                    |                                     |
| e             | Our own witness   |   | work nara                                    |                                     |
|               | Faith in Action   | Ascension Service at<br>St. Mary's  |  | Ascension                           |
|               |   |   | ay Half Term                                 |                                     |
| Pentecost     | Human relationships   | Pentecost Service at<br>School  |  | Pentecost Service                   |
|               | Rights and<br>responsibilities for<br>ourselves and all<br>God's Children |   | So we can<br>achieve our<br>potential within | Seasonal Change                     |
| Ord           | Feelings  |   | •  |                                     |
| ina           | Personal safety   |   | a community of                               |                                     |
| Ordinary Time | Take 5 – connect<br>(transition)  |   | life-long                                    |                                     |
| Ø             | · · ·   |   | learners                                     | Transition                          |
|               |   | Leavers' Service at<br>St. Mary's   |  | Farewell                            |
|               |   |   | nmer Holidays                                |                                     |

#### Hymns and Songs of Faith:

In-line with the school's vision, hymns are mapped against different components of the vision.

This is a working document that is regularly updated. The following is a draft version:

|        | Resilience  | Kindnoss              | Responsibility  | Creativity  |
|--------|---|-----------------------|---|---|
| Star   | I watch the sunrise:<br>https://www.youtube.c<br>om/watch?v=vm-<br><u>A5NIkI8U</u><br>instrumental:<br>https://www.youtube.c<br>om/watch?v=81p10LB7<br>yag  | <u>Kindness</u>       | <u>Oh the love of my Lord is</u><br><u>the essence:</u><br><u>https://www.youtube.com/</u><br><u>watch?v=AruhqHocr3g</u><br>Entry/ exit music:<br><u>https://www.youtube.com/</u><br><u>watch?v=AcBwtMVxoaM</u> | <u>Creativity</u>   |
| Vision | Whole vision:<br>All are welcome (Let us bu<br><u>https://www.youtube.con</u><br>singing) <u>https://www.yout<br/>We live and work in</u><br><u>harmony</u> | n/watch?v=js8RtT0mJpc | (with   | <u>Within a community of</u><br><u>life-long learners</u> |
| Scri   | Live in harmony, live   | Love one another, as  | Be kind to one another,   | Many parts, one body                                      |
| ptur   | peaceably with all  | I have loved you      | forgiving one another   | <u>1 Corinthians 12:12-14</u>                             |
| es     |   | John 13:34            | Ephesians 4:32  |   |
|        | Make me a channel of  |                       |   | One Bread, One Body:                                      |
|        | your peace:<br>https://www.youtube.c  | A new<br>commandment: | Be Kind to one another:   | https://www.youtube.co                                    |
|        | om/watch?v=2GS9ThG1   | https://www.hymna     | https://carolynshymns.com/<br>be kind to one another.ht   | m/watch?v=Y4nXfA1NM<br>o8                                 |
|        | Rx8   | l.net/en/hymn/h/13    | ml  |   |
|        |   | <u>43</u>             |   | Entry/ exit music   |
|        |   |                       |   | We are many parts:  |
|        |   |                       |   | https://www.youtube.co<br>m/watch?v=J0iGk2f-ayM           |

In addition, there is a bank of hymns that are regularly used in collective worship, along with those that complement the liturgical seasons.

NB Parents have a right to request that their children are withdrawn from collective worship. Such requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher who will ensure that adequate supervision is provided.