

Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Prepared by	Chris Grey (Headteacher)	
Approved by the Committee/Governing body	Chris Grey (Headteacher) with the support and approval of the Full Governing Board	
Signature of Chair of Governors	n/a	
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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 a.m.Collective worship led by a Church Representative - rota of visiting church personnel from the 3 local churches		Collective Worship themes grid used (below)	
Tuesday	Tuesday1:00-1:20 p.m.Collective act of worship led by the Headteacher or class teachers		Diocese of Ely Collective Worship / Collective Worship themes grid used (below)	
Wednesday	Wednesday1:00-1:20 p.m.Collective Worship led by the Headteacher or class teachers		Collective Worship themes grid used (below) / Take 5 / Relax Kids Meditation / Silent Prayer	
Thursday	Thursday1:00-1:20 p.m.Hymns of Faith (Worship through music) led by teachers.		Liturgical seasons and related hymns	
Friday	2.45-3.15 p.m.	Celebration worship led by the Headteacher or Senior Leader. (See Social Development Policy for details). Each class presents and introduction to the celebration worship twice per year.	Follow-up of weekly themes / Diocese of Ely Collective Worship theme covered on 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 themes	Annual Services	School vision focus	Liturgical Season themes and Seasonal themes
	Stories or themes from the Old Testament, links			Start of academic year
	between Judaism and Christianity		We live and work in	International Day of Peace, Autumn, seasonal change
0			harmony	Autumn, seasonal change
Ordinary Time	Take 5 – take notice!	Harvest Service at St. Mary's		Harvest
Tin		Octo	ber Half Term	
ы	Appreciation of the			All Saints, change of clocks
	world God created and man's		Creativity to	Festivals of light – Diwali, Bonfire Night
	responsibility for conserving it. (link to	Remembrance Service at School	Creativity - try new things and	Remembrance
	Shelford Star – Creativity)		improve	Seasonal change
Advent	Take 5 – take notice!		Kindness-	Advent approaching
		Advent Service at School	imagine and	Advent Service to open RE Day
ent			understand others	Advent (3)
t		Shelford Christmas Day Service		Advent (4)
Christmas	Christmas Holidays			
Epiphany		Epiphany at School		Epiphany, Feast of St. Mary
0	Stories or themes from the New Testament		NA711 1	New Year's Resolutions
Ordin	Take 5 – be active!		With love for	
nar			one another	
ary time		Candlemas Service at St. Mary's		Candlemas (presentation of Jesus at the temple)
		Febr	uary Half Term	
Lent	Take 5 – give to others (Lenten promises)		Resilience – Push	Shrove Tuesday, As 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 collective worship Easter Service at All Saints'		Holy week: Up to Good Friday
	Easter Holidays			
Eag	Spreading God's word – Acts of the Apostles		Responsibility-	Easter Sunday, symbol of the egg
stei	Missionaries		concentrate and	
Eastertide	Saints		work hard	
e	Our own witness		work nara	
	Faith in Action	Ascension Service at St. Mary's		Ascension
			ay Half Term	
Pentecost	Human relationships	Pentecost Service at School		Pentecost Service
	Rights and responsibilities for ourselves and all God's Children		So we can achieve our potential within	Seasonal Change
Ord	Feelings		•	
ina	Personal safety		a community of	
Ordinary Time	Take 5 – connect (transition)		life-long	
Ø	· · ·		learners	Transition
		Leavers' Service at 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: https://www.youtube.c om/watch?v=vm- <u>A5NIkI8U</u> instrumental: https://www.youtube.c om/watch?v=81p10LB7 yag	<u>Kindness</u>	<u>Oh the love of my Lord is</u> <u>the essence:</u> <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> <u>watch?v=AruhqHocr3g</u> Entry/ exit music: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> <u>watch?v=AcBwtMVxoaM</u>	<u>Creativity</u>
Vision	Whole vision: All are welcome (Let us bu <u>https://www.youtube.con</u> singing) <u>https://www.yout We live and work in</u> <u>harmony</u>	n/watch?v=js8RtT0mJpc	(with	<u>Within a community of</u> <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: https://www.youtube.c	A new commandment:	Be Kind to one another:	https://www.youtube.co
	om/watch?v=2GS9ThG1	https://www.hymna	https://carolynshymns.com/ be kind to one another.ht	m/watch?v=Y4nXfA1NM o8
	Rx8	l.net/en/hymn/h/13	ml	
		<u>43</u>		Entry/ exit music
				We are many parts:
				https://www.youtube.co 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.