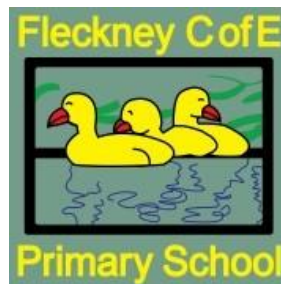


Fleckney C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



**Let your light shine Matthew 5:16
Be the best that you can be**

Our Vision

Fleckney Church of England Primary School is a place where kindness, compassion and respect are at the heart of everything we do. We aspire for everyone to thrive, flourish, and achieve our full potential in every aspect of school life. Through our Christian values, we nurture self-confidence, resilience and a sense of community so that we have an understanding of our place and ourselves in the wider world.

Date of Policy: February 2025

Drafted by: Josh Richards

Approved by: Gareth Robinson

Date of Review: Spring 2027

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do.

Collective Worship in a Church school should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). It will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and developing community and understanding of living well together.

Policy Statement

In Fleckney CE worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. It is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A school is not a Church but is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of education. The family backgrounds may be very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils.

At Fleckney CE collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian (*and other faiths*¹) calendar. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

Church of England Guidance

Collective worship policy at Fleckney CE draws on guidance from the Church of England. This guidance document has been produced to challenge, to guide and set expectations for Church school communities and diocesan authorities, encouraging them to reflect on their practice and to ensure that collective worship remains the relevant and essential component of an education that enables all pupils to flourish.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship. Collective Worship is regarded as an essential part of the development of the whole child and as such is recognised by staff and governors as an important part of daily learning. We expect all children to attend but 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 do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education reform Act. The Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

Guiding Principles

Collective worship in Fleckney CE aims to:

- Have a pivotal place in the life of the school.
- Support pupils and adults in their spiritual growth
- Be the central vehicle by which the school's vision is unpacked and explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to observe and/or respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity.
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.
- Help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well known Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes and home time.
- Offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of the local church community. Pupils will be at the centre of this process taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading worship.
- Ensure that materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to make sure pupils understand the work of Christians and the church locally, nationally and globally and how this reflects the teachings of the Bible and the example of Jesus.

Planning and organisation:

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school either as a whole school or in classes. The structure of collective worship varies but usually includes a parable/biblical scripture, questions, times of silence and prayer. Collective Worship follows our school vision and values

Timetable:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Liturgical Calendar Worship	Christian Value Worship	Community Worship	Global / national worship	Celebration & Singing worship

Monday: Liturgical Calendar Worship

This collective worship focuses on the Liturgical Calendar, with a whole school assembly that highlights the Christian and Anglican liturgical calendar. It includes Bible parables, songs, scripture, prayer, and a recap of previous assemblies, with an emphasis on our school vision: "Let your light shine" (Matthew 5:16).

Tuesday: Christian Value Worship

This is dedicated to exploring one of our six Christian values—Community, Compassion, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, and Aspiration. Each half-term, a specific value is explored through collective worship, culminating in an assembly where children who have embodied the value are awarded a coloured star to wear on their uniform.

Wednesday: Community Worship

Today is Community Worship, where a local member of the clergy or church leads the assembly. This provides an opportunity for children to learn about the Christian faith and engage with knowledgeable experts through discussions and questions.

Thursday: Global / National Worship

Thursday features Global/National Worship, using the 'Picture News' resource. Each week, a current event is presented through a news image, encouraging deep reflection and discussion on topics such as stereotypes, politics, and charity, all with a biblical Christian perspective.

Friday: Celebration & Singing Worship

This is our Singing and Celebration Worship, where we come together to celebrate the week's achievements. Each child receives a, 'Shining Star of the Week' certificate for modelling our school vision and values. We also enjoy traditional hymns and songs about Jesus.

Additionally, we attend church services throughout the year for special occasions like Harvest, Christmas, and Easter, further enriching our faith journey as a school community.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. Collective worship is led by different staff within the school, including the headteacher, deputy headteacher and other teachers. It is also led by clergy and visitors from the local churches.

Children are encouraged to be involved in leading collective worship. They are given the opportunity to share prayers they have written. Key Stage 2 children are also given an opportunity to lead collective worship on an issue that they are passionate about and would like to raise awareness of

Reflective spaces in the hall and classrooms provide a focus for collective worship. Children are encouraged to use boxes in classrooms to post prayers and responses.

Visitors:

Visitors are invited to lead and enhance collective worship. Examples of visitors include clergy, volunteers from local churches, Storytellers, leaders from other religions and charity representative.

Visitors should understand the educational aims of collective worship at the school. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. The Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop.

We also welcome the parents' contributions through questionnaires, which are reviewed and considered on a regular basis. All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Children have a 'Collective Worship Pupil Reflection Book' where each week a children will post-it note their reflection on the story and message shared.

Children, staff and governors are encouraged to fill in an evaluation of collective worship, to share their responses and the impact of the session. Staff and governors also meet with the school council to evaluate collective worship and suggest ways it can be improved.

Disseminating the policy

We ensure that this policy is known to all staff and governors, parents and carers and, as appropriate, to all pupils. This policy is available on our school website.

Staff development and training

We ensure that all staff, including support staff, receive appropriate training and opportunities for professional development, both as individuals and as groups or teams.