

# CHRIST CHURCH (BRONDESURY) CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Collective Worship policy



<b>Responsible Governors' Committee</b>	<b>Full Governing Board</b>
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<b>Signature</b>	

# Christ Church (Brondesbury) CE Primary School

## School Vision

Christ Church (Brondesbury) CE Primary School is a vibrant, welcoming and inclusive school at the centre of our diverse local community. We are perceived as a “family” by all who know us.

As a Christian school, we encourage everyone to be their best and to grow in God's creation. We provide a supportive, safe, respectful and reflective environment in which all flourish irrespective of their culture and belief.

We provide the highest standard of learning for all of our community and encourage them to pursue aspirational goals.

The school's vision is deeply rooted within the scripture passage:

### **2 Corinthians 8:7**

*“But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, and in all eagerness and in the love from us that is in you—make sure that you excel in this act of kindness too.”*

Our vision is embedded within the Christian values of:

**Compassion, Respect, Friendship, Forgiveness, Perseverance, Wisdom.**

Our vision is expressed by all as “**Going for GOLD with faith**”.

This is explained and explored below:

Vision	Demonstrated as
<b>G</b> ive learning your best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Try your best at everything</li><li>• Follow the “give me five” rules</li></ul>
<b>O</b> wn your choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be respectful and polite</li><li>• Be honest and take responsibility for your words and actions</li></ul>
<b>L</b> ove yourself, as God loves you	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Love yourself, for you are special</li><li>• Love your neighbours with all your heart</li></ul>
<b>D</b> ream big, work hard and pray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aim high</li><li>• Always be ready to learn</li><li>• With prayer, everything is possible</li></ul>

**This policy reflects and supports our school vision in that through our teaching of RE and in our Collective Worship we strive to “...provide a supportive, safe and respectful environment in which all flourish...” This is also reflected in every strand of our Going for GOLD with faith statement.**

## Collective Worship Policy

### 1. How is the policy a reflection of our theologically rooted Christian vision?

Christ Church (Brondesbury) C of E Primary School is a multi-cultural school which nurtures Christian faith and behaviour. The Christian faith underpins all aspects of school life. Acts of Collective Worship are a fundamental part of the life of the school. They are an opportunity for the school to meet together to share experiences and understanding of the spiritual dimension. Our worship is primarily and distinctively Christian. We aim to give children the opportunity to reflect on God and the world He has created, to develop awe and wonder, to learn about the Christian faith and to develop moral values that will take them through life.

We combine Christian teaching and values which create opportunities for children to develop spiritually, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently, so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens.

### 2. Introduction

In Church of England schools, collective worship is seen as more than a daily 'awe and wonder' moment. It is the unique heartbeat of the school and will be offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together.

*We want pupils to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with Jesus Christ and with Christian faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives...Collective worship in schools, including prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity, provide a vital opportunity for this.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> The Church of England Education Office, *Church of England Vision for Education: Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good*. (The Church of England Education Office 2016) page 10

Collective worship is a sacred and significant time of each school day, where we gather together as a whole school family. Collective worship strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school and reaffirms our Christian vision and associated values of **Compassion, Respect, Friendship, Forgiveness, Perseverance and Wisdom**.

### 3. Aims of Collective Worship

- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- To reflect the parish tradition of worship, while giving experience over time for pupils to experience the breadth of Anglicanism.

- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals. *(Where appropriate, and in liaison with your incumbent, this may include the Eucharist)*
- Explore the school's Christian vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues.
- Enable pupils the opportunity to make a positive contribution to worship through involvement with aspects of the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship.

#### 4. Legal requirements

Collective worship:

- Should be conducted in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school and Instrument of Government and be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England.
- Unless the right of withdrawal has been exercised all pupils must take part each day in an act of collective worship (DfE circular 1/94 para. 51) and the Governing Body should ensure that all pupils **each day** engage in a distinctively Christian act of worship.
- Arrangements for collective worship in foundation schools of a religious character (i.e. church schools) are the responsibility of the Governing Body, after consultation with the headteacher (DfE Circular 1/94 para 52&53).

#### 5. Planning of worship

Collective worship is planned by a variety of stakeholders including staff, the incumbent of our linked church/es and external visitors in consultation with the collective worship leader and governors.

The daily Christian act of worship is central to our Christian ethos. It makes an important contribution to the spiritual flourishing of the whole school community. We are committed to providing a daily act of Christian worship which is truly welcoming, inclusive and exemplifies the principles of Christian hospitality.

Collective worship can take place at any time of the school day and in any regular school grouping e.g. whole school or key stage. Our school plans systematically, using both long term and short term plans which enables continuity and cohesion.

We are mindful of the variation in personal spiritual styles and our planning incorporates a range of creative opportunities to enable all to engage in the acts of worship. These include, but are not limited to:

- The use of IT resources, such as videos and stories
- Music
- Bibles and holy texts

When planning acts of worship, we follow the Church of England guidance to ensure that worship is:

- **Inclusive** – Our acts of worship recognise that pupils and staff come from homes of different faith backgrounds as well as no faith backgrounds, so it will be inclusive of, and fully accessible to all. Care will be taken to ensure that language used by those facilitating worship avoids assuming faith of those participating, listening or watching.
- **Invitational** – In our acts of worship, there is no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship will provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. Pupils and adults will only be invited to pray if they wish to do so.

- **Inspiring** – By asking and discussing big questions about who we are and what we do in worship we hope to motivate pupils and adults into action. There will be opportunities to think, reflect and ponder on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions.

## 6. Pattern of Worship

Our pattern of worship is as follows:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Vision &amp; Values / Prayer / Singing</b>	<b>Headteacher / SLT</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Bible stories &amp; values</b>	<b>Clergy</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>British Values-based</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>The Big Questions</b>	<b>Teachers</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Celebrating successes</b>	<b>Teachers</b>

Our worship consists of 4 parts:

- **Gather** – we welcome the community, for example, *(with music, liturgy and/or 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 a final prayer, music, liturgy and/or the blowing out of our special candle)*

## 7. Collective worship leader

The leader for collective worship (the R.E. Leader) is responsible for long term planning of worship, leading acts of worship and supporting staff and pupils who are planning and leading aspects of worship. The leader also monitors the quality of worship and evaluates its impact across the school community.

## 8. Visitors leading worship

Visitors to our school are asked to read and comply with our school visitor and safeguarding policies. This should include discussing the content of any worship with a member of the senior leadership in order to ascertain its suitability for the school community. Visitors are never left alone with children as the supervision of pupils remains the responsibility of school staff.

It is the responsibility of the collective worship leader and senior leaders to ensure that all visitors, who are leading worship in school, will be trained and properly briefed about the school, its context and our school's vision. Please refer to LDBS guidance for visitors leading worship.

## 9. CPD and training

Parents, pupils and adults in school are entitled to be led in Christian worship by those who have a secure understanding of the nature of collective worship in a church school context. Therefore, all those leading worship, including clergy, should have access to regular diocesan led training.

## **10. Monitoring and evaluation**

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact they have on pupils and adults within the school community.

This involves monitoring by school leaders, the collective worship leader and governors and takes place both informally and formally. Everyone who leads worship is asked to evaluate, reflecting on how they can improve and develop their practice.

We welcome the views of all those who participate in our worship, including pupils, parents, and visitors. These views are gathered in feedback through discussion with the Collective Worship Leader, or sent via email following the act of worship.

This feedback plays an essential part in developing the spiritual growth of our school community.

Foundation governors and the worship leader observe and evaluate worship once every term and report back to the whole governing body.

The impact of collective worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 (SIAMS).

## **11. Parents and Carers**

As a school we recognise that a partnership with parents/carers is essential to help pupils flourish. Worship is regarded as special time in our school day where we gather as a school family. Reflecting our ethos as a Church of England school, collective worship is an inclusive opportunity for those of all faiths and none to be present with integrity.

We respect the legal right of parents to withdraw their child/children from acts of collective worship, However, in view of the Christian ethos and distinctive Christian character of our school, we hope that all pupils will participate in collective worship, and that anyone wishing to withdraw their child will discuss this with the headteacher before making their decision. Following these discussions, any desire to formally withdraw pupils from worship must be done via a letter to the Headteacher.

## Appendix 1 – example template for Eucharist celebration

### The Welcome

In the name of the Father and the Son  
and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The Priest introduces the service and we then pause and ask for God to forgive the foolish things we sometimes do.*

Lord, You made us to love You  
and at times we forget to follow your light  
Lord have mercy.  
**Lord have mercy**

Lord, You ask us to love each other  
and at times we hurt each other.  
Christ have mercy.  
**Christ have mercy**

Lord, You call us to love ourselves  
and at times we cannot even do that.  
Lord have mercy,  
**Lord, have mercy**

*The Priest will remind us of God's forgiveness and we can make the sign of the cross to remind us that God forgives us.*

### **The Collect**

*We listen to a special pray for the day.*

*We listen to a reading from the Gospel.*

Alleluia, **Alleluia**  
We do not live by bread alone,  
but by every word which comes from the mouth of God  
**Alleluia**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**  
Hear the word of our Lord Jesus Christ according to .....

*At the end of the reading we say*  
This is the gospel of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We Pray for the World, Our Community and Ourselves led by Children*

*We share the peace of God with each other.*

God is love, and those who live in love  
live in God, and God lives in them.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace

Sometimes we might sing a song.

**We share the meal Christ has given to us**

*The Priest prepares the Altar, and then we stand..*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give thanks and praise**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.  
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.  
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you, and singing

**Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord;  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty!  
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord;  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty!  
who was, and is, and is to come!  
Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord!**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit that broken bread

and wine outpoured may be for us the body  
and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he was betrayed,  
at supper with his friends,  
he took bread and gave thanks he broke it  
and gave it to them saying:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you  
do this in remembrance of me.

At the end of supper, taking a cup of wine  
He gave thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you for the forgiveness  
of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one with Christ, our risen Lord  
With your whole Church through the  
world we offer You this sacrifice of praise  
and life our voices in song

**Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord;  
Jesus is the Lord God Almighty  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord;  
Jesus is the Lord God Almighty  
who was, and is, and is to come!  
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus is the Lord**

*Silence is kept for a moment*

*We join in the prayer that Jesus taught his friends to say,*

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

This is Jesus the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed**

*The Priest then invites us to receive communion or a blessing.*

*After we sing*

**Worthy, Worthy, Worthy is the Lord;  
Worthy is the Lord God Almighty  
Worthy, Worthy, Worthy is the Lord;  
Worthy is the Lord God Almighty  
who was, and is, and is to come!  
Worthy, Worthy, Worthy is the Lord**

*We receive a blessing*

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

..... and the blessing of God almighty, the (+) Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**