

Our School promotes 'Friendship & Learning' underpinned by the Christian values of kindness, perseverance & hope.

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John 10v10.



Crosscrake CE School Collective Worship Policy

This policy was established, and approved for implementation by the full Governing Body of Crosscrake CE School

Signed by the Chair of Governors: P Blackburn
Dated: 15.11.2023
The name of our Collective Worship Governor is: Rev Terry
This policy is to be next reviewed in: 3 years. (2026)

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Our vision for Collective Worship

Collective worship is central to the life of Crosscrake CE school. It is part of the outworking of the school's Christian vision and is a time for the whole school community to gather, pause and reflect their own spirituality, values and place in the world.

'...there is a strong educational case for experience of worship being part of school life, since its omission lessens the possibility of understanding traditions to which worship is essential;'

Church of England Vision for Education 2016

Collective worship is not the same as an assembly, though can take place in the same gathering. A school may hold any number of assemblies each week but must have a daily act of collective worship. Collective worship can be held in class or tutor groups for a shorter period of time.

Aims

Inclusive, Invitational, Inspirational

The aims of collective worship **in this school** are:

- Collective worship will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect as well as developing community and understanding of living well together.
- It aims to be inclusive, invitational and inspirational.
- It is central to the life of the school and celebrates the Christian values on which the school is based.
- It supports pupils and adults in their spiritual growth.
- To enable children and adults to enjoy worship; particularly to support expressions of reverence, awe, wonder, gratitude, joy, serenity, contrition, expectation, assurance, respect etc.
- Supports pupils in their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief.
- Introduces pupils to a variety of forms of Christian worship that reflect the rich diversity of experience in Anglican (and other Christian traditions) locally and globally.
- Enables pupils to use the use of silence or stilling, reflection and prayer.

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- Provides opportunities to explore the 'Big Questions' of life and to recognise the responses that have been made to these by people of faith. To heighten pupils' awareness of questions relating to the ultimate mysteries of life and to explore the responses that have been made to these by people of faith.
- Affirms the uniqueness and contribution of every individual in the sight of God

Legal Framework

Since 1944 collective worship has been a legal requirement in maintained schools. The law requires that all registered school age pupils take part in an act of worship each day. In a church school these acts must be distinctively Christian in nature. By inviting the school community to worship, we need to consider the varied backgrounds that the school community come from and therefore collective worship is invitational rather than confessional in nature.

At this school collective worship is conducted in accordance with the Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and is consistent with the beliefs of the Church of England.

Practicalities

The whole school including members of staff, meet together in the hall each afternoon except Thursdays when class teachers conduct key stage worship in their own rooms. Worship usually lasts between 10 and 15 minutes. The Friday worship includes a celebration of children's efforts and achievements in school and elsewhere. Parents, Governors and members of the church and local community often attend collective worship on special occasions and festivals.

Various people assist the head in conducting whole school worship. Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and regularly contribute to acts of worship.

The vicar and Church team are frequently invited, as are members of charitable organisations offering their expertise to the school. Class teachers also lead whole school worship.

At Harvest Festival, Christmas, Easter and other major festival days the whole school visits the church for an act of worship. On appropriate occasions we use the school grounds for whole school or class worship, e.g. the Stations of the Cross worship.

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

The content and planning of collective worship should be varied. The themes for each week/half term/term are shared with staff and visiting clergy at the beginning of each term and include ideas for stories from the Bible that support this. However, the pattern is flexible and on occasions, will focus on a response to local or national events.

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Collective worship lies at the heart of daily life in our Voluntary Aided School. It makes an important contribution to children's spirituality and understanding of how Christian values help them to live their lives. Children enjoy their varied worship experiences because they are relevant, inclusive and responsive to their needs. Our planning includes Christian themes, with a strong emphasis on Christian values and important Christian festivals.

Monday	Rev Terry
Tuesday	Church team worship
Wednesday	Songs of Worship (Mrs Carr)
Thursday	Picture News Key stage collective worship (Mrs Brown/ Mr Cunningham)
Friday	'Values' themed collective worship & 'Shiny' celebration (Mrs Fletcher)

Children throughout the school are given the opportunity to plan, lead and take part in collective worship. Singing and music making are an important part of the worship. Visitors, e.g. NISCU workers, are invited to lead worship in line with our worship policy.

The content of collective worship is planned to reflect the Christian calendar, and Christian Values, with reference to the calendars of other faiths as appropriate.

Services/Events	A. 2024-25	B. 2023-24
Harvest Service	Thankfulness	Generosity
Christmas	Trust	Compassion
Mothering Sunday	Perseverance	Courage
Easter	Justice	Forgiveness
Pentecost	Service	Friendship
Leavers Service	Truthfulness	Respect

Resources

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The school uses a variety of resources recommended by Carlisle Diocese that are available to use when planning collective worship. Amongst others, we utilise materials from Carlisle Diocese, RE Today, Imaginor, Christian Aid and other story/parable-based explorations. including resources from the world-wide church.

Responsibilities

Headteacher (CW lead) – has the delegated responsibility for day to day acts of collective worship:

Identifying and planning themes

Support where required for those leading worship

Identifying training needs

Monitoring and evaluation of collective worship

Foundation Governors – monitor and evaluate the impact of collective worship in our school through governor observations and ensure collective worship is consistent with the trust deed. The governor with collective worship responsibility will report annually to the full governing board and propose any necessary amendments to the School Development Plan, including any need for staff development or training. (See example questions below)

Leaders of collective worship – plan and deliver acts of worship.

Visitors

We encourage guest leaders of collective worship throughout the year. Some of these may be linked to a specific project or organisation. Please see additional diocesan guidance for religious or faith visitors taking part in collective worship.

<https://www.carlislediocese.org.uk/documents/guidance-staff-when-faith-representatives-visit-ce-school/>

Example questions to ask during monitoring activity for Collective Worship

This is intended to help governors and others to monitor or evaluate the effectiveness of acts of collective worship. The prime concern is to ensure that the governors' policy on collective worship is being delivered. Monitoring the effectiveness of the worship leader is the headteacher's responsibility and governors should guard against judging or commenting on this aspect. Governors who are present in worship should participate in the worship fully.

Question	Comments	Action required
Are the children: - Engaged, interested and responding well? - Actively involved - they took part through drama, roleplaying, readings etc? - Able to take a lead – they made choices that affected the worship? - Enjoying worship? - Moved/made to think?		
Does the presentation: - Vary in pace, format and emotional tone – were there lively and quiet times? - Appeal to the senses? - Allow for a variety of learning styles? - Allow for a range of responses? - Include effective use of eye contact, variation in tone and pitch, body language and gesture? - Clearly related to children's previous learning and experiences?		
Is the content: - Relevant to the pupils age interests and ability? - Related to the school curriculum? - Linked to the distinctive Christian Values? - Reflective of Christian traditions and practice? - Inclusive of those of all faiths and none? - Well resourced?		
Did the leader succeed in:		

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• Creating an appropriate emotional environment – secure, warm, lively, amusing, challenging or reflective? • Promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development? • Provide appropriate opportunities for meaningful reflection, not only, but including silence?		
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<https://www.carlislediocese.org.uk/documents/guidance-faith-representatives-visiting-schools/>

Review

There will be a review every three years of this policy. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the collective worship leader, together with a senior leaders and governors. This will include discussions with other members of staff, observation of teaching and monitoring of children's work. Evaluation of teaching plans will form part of any review. The outcomes will influence the school development plan.