



Collective Worship

“Living life in all its fullness”

Collective Worship at Grayrigg Church of England School takes place daily in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Framework Act, 1998.

The content of all our acts of Collective Worship is in accordance with the beliefs and practices of the Anglican Church (as required by the Trust Deed and the instrument of governance of this Church of England School).

This policy was agreed by the governing body and will be reviewed within four years. The governors are grateful for the help in preparing this document. Visitors to the school who are regularly involved in acts of worship are provided with a copy of this policy.

Aims of collective worship: The WHY

As a school we come together for daily acts of collective worship to enable all children to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10)

Specifically we aim:

- To provide opportunities for students and staff to explore and celebrate the Christian values on which the school is based.
- To explore the four pillars of the Church of England Vision for Education and how these are relevant in their lives, in their relationships, in the world and in their faith
- To introduce children to a variety of forms of worship. Seeking to reflect the rich diversity of experience in the Anglican (and other Christian) traditions locally and around the world.
- To enable children and adults to develop expressions of reverence, awe, wonder, gratitude, joy, serenity, contrition, expectation, assurance, respect etc.
- To enable pupils to explore the use of silence for stilling, reflection and, as appropriate, prayer.
- 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.
- To affirm the value and special gifts and status that Christians believe each person has in the sight of God.

Practicalities: The HOW

Every child will participate in the following five acts of worship weekly:

- Open the Book will lead a weekly assembly allowing the children to engage with the bible in a lively and fun way.
- A weekly worship led by a member of the clergy either Reverend Tricia Rogers or another member of the clergy on her behalf.
- A celebration worship where children's demonstration of values are celebrated.
- A worship led by the headteacher (or the Ethos Leaders)
- A class worship

Throughout the year children will also experience

- Three experience worships each year organised and led by the Ethos leaders in church. These include:
 - Harvest Experience



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- Christmas Experience
- Candlemass experience
- Easter experience
- Pentecost experience
- Ascension experience
- Special worships for Christian festivals
- Outdoor moments of stillness and reflection in the weekly forest school sessions
- EYFS children will initially have more class worships as they settle into school life.

The school adults will join the children for most of these worships but will also have a weekly flourishing adults worship and reflection.

Worship Leaders (part of the Etos leader responsibility) will enable Collective Worship by preparing the space and managing tech and resources. These responsibilities may include: Setting up the space, playing the arrival music, lighting the candles, managing the slides and videos, assisting with anything required to ensure just inclusion, completing the evaluation on tapestry and leading the prayer.

Class worships:

Class worships focus on the bible

- In EYFS the children will select a story for the week from the Bible stories available. This will be led by staff confident to discuss these stories but the aim is for children to enjoy and begin to understand them. They may pick the same story more than once- this could be reflected on why do we like this story so much, why is it a good story to read over and over again?
- In KS1 the leader will use the class Bible and work through it over two years from Old Testament through to New.
- In LKS2 the children will revisit the Bible stories working through over two years using the interval copies provided. They can then complete their individual reflection before joining the class song and prayer.
- In UKS2 the children will reflect on world events, the leader will select either a new story or a specific event and share this with the children, they will then discuss this reflecting on the event and how they should respond in relation to the schools Christian Values and as an Ethos Team- the core theme of these will be Belonging, Justice, Our World inspired by 1 John 3:18 "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

Outdoor Reflection:

Celebrating creation and the world, adults will join in with this reflection unless they are required to watch a fire or other Health and Safety responsibilities.

Open the Book:

Takes place at St John the Evangelist's church. members of the church community lead the children in a dramatised bible story in line with the Bible society's guidance

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/>

Child led worship:

Ethos leaders are an integral part of the leadership team, particularly in relation to Collective Worship. All children become Ethos Leaders in Year 6 and will take responsibility for both preparing and leading parts or whole Collective Worship throughout the year for special celebrations and festivals and lead the EXPERIENCES and Values activities.



Format

All collective worships consists of

- Arrival and welcome- with the exception of outdoor reflection where the background music is the sound of nature- children will arrive with a selected song.
- There is a short gathering as children come together:
- Learning and response
- Reflection and prayer
- Song
- Music out

Leaders

All worship leaders are required to:

- Respect the life choices of children and other participants particularly being sensitive to ensure all children are able to flourish: worship is distinctly Christian BUT in the spirit of UBUNTU not exclusively for christians. In line with the school's Belonging Policy and class Justice Charters, children should be given the opportunity to listen but if they choose not to they can sit quietly and reflect during the prayer.
- Follow this policy and any planning provided
- Ensure that their worship addresses the needs, interests, backgrounds and abilities of the children and uses a variety of aesthetic materials and other stimuli and active learning styles
- Provide opportunities for participation by the children, including regular opportunities for them to lead parts of worship children to lead in worship
- Include opportunities for appropriate prayer and reflection
- Complete a brief record of their worship on tapestry- will include reflection and ideas for next time. The title of the observations must be the type of Worship.

Resources

School is developing a range of resources to be used, these are kept in a central space. The head teacher ensures there are adequate finances to resource Collective worship, the church also supports this. Please ensure you make a request if there is something specific required for the delivery of CW. Finance or resourcing should never be a hindrance.

Evaluation and Review

The 2 Governors with oversight of collective worship will be appointed annually and will meet each term with the worship coordinator to monitor

- The implementation of this policy
- The ongoing development of Collective worship
- The records for worship
- The issues relating to collective worship in the school development plan (SDP)

Each year these governors seek the views of stakeholders to evaluate the impact of worship and to identify ideas for future development through:

- Meeting with the Ethos Crew
- Informal conversations with parents/community members after whole school worships
- Seeking the views of staff and visiting worship leaders
- Through the worship evaluations on tapestry.



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Foundation governors are welcome to attend Collective Worship but should contact the headteacher in advance.

The foundation governors with the collective worship coordinator report annually to the full governing body and propose any necessary amendments to the SDP including the need for staff development or training.

Withdrawal

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from collective worship. Should any parent make such a request, appropriate arrangements will be made for the supervision of the children following consultation. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of collective worship are encouraged to contact the head teacher to discuss this. The head teacher will report to the governors the numbers (but not the names) of any children who are withdrawn and the arrangements that have been made for their supervision.

Approved by Full Governing Body on 11.07.2023

Signed:

Chair



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2023

First Sunday of Advent 3 December

2024

Ash Wednesday 14 February

Easter Day 31 March

Ascension Day 9 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 19 May

First Sunday of Advent 1 December

2025

Ash Wednesday 5 March

Easter Day 20 April

Ascension Day 29 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 8 June

First Sunday of Advent 30 November

2026

Ash Wednesday 18 February

Easter Day 5 April

Ascension Day 14 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 24 May

First Sunday of Advent 29 November

2027

Ash Wednesday 10 February

Easter Day 28 March

Ascension Day 6 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 16 May

First Sunday of Advent 28 November

2028

Ash Wednesday 1 March

Easter Day 16 April

Ascension Day 25 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 4 June

First Sunday of Advent 3 December

2029

Ash Wednesday 14 February

Easter Day 1 April

Ascension Day 10 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 20 May

First Sunday of Advent 2 December

2030

Ash Wednesday 6 March

Easter Day 21 April

Ascension Day 30 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 9 June

First Sunday of Advent 1 December

2031

Ash Wednesday 26 February

Easter Day 13 April

Ascension Day 22 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 1 June

First Sunday of Advent 30 November

2032

Ash Wednesday 11 February

Easter Day 28 March

Ascension Day 6 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 16 May

First Sunday of Advent 28 November

2033

Ash Wednesday 2 March

Easter Day 17 April

Ascension Day 26 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 5 June

First Sunday of Advent 27 November

2034

Ash Wednesday 22 February

Easter Day 9 April

Ascension Day 18 May

Pentecost (Whit Sunday) 28 May

First Sunday of Advent 3 December