



## Great and Little Shelford C E (A) Primary School

# Collective Worship Policy

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Signature of Chair of Governors	<i>n/a</i>
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## Collective Worship Policy

*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. This session is separate from the teaching of Religious Education.

### ***The role of the governors***

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”.

As a voluntary aided school

Foundation governors have a specific role relating to collective worship. They:

- ensure that collective worship and religious education (RE) at the school are appropriately monitored;
- ensure that collective worship and religious education at the school follow the appropriate guidelines and/or syllabus.

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 school staff will attend regularly and support sessions. All class teachers will take part in leading collective worship throughout the year.

### ***Weekly structure and themes***

Collective Worship is organised as follows: -

<b>Monday</b>	9:30am	Collective worship led by a Church Representative – rota of visiting church personnel from the 3 local churches	Collective Worship themes grid used (below)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:30am	Collective act of worship led by the Headteacher or class teachers	Diocese of Ely Collective Worship / Collective Worship themes grid used (below)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30am	Collective Worship led by the Headteacher or class teachers	Collective Worship themes grid used (below) / Take 5 / Relax Kids Meditation / Silent Prayer
<b>Thursday</b>	9:30am	Hymns of Faith (Worship through music) led by teachers.	Liturgical seasons and related hymns
<b>Friday</b>	2.45	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.

### **Collective Worship Themes:**

	Suggested school themes	Annual Services	School vision focus	Liturgical Season themes and Seasonal themes
Ordinary Time	Stories or themes from the Old Testament, links between Judaism and Christianity		We live and work in harmony	Start of academic year
				International Day of Peace, Autumn, seasonal change
	Take 5 – take notice!			Autumn, seasonal change
		Harvest Service at St. Mary’s		Harvest
	October Half Term			
	Appreciation of the world God created and man’s responsibility for conserving it. (link to Shelford Star – Creativity)		Creativity – try new things and improve	All Saints, change of clocks
				Festivals of light – Diwali, Bonfire Night
		Remembrance Service at School		Remembrance
				Seasonal change
Advent	Take 5 – take notice!		Kindness – imagine and understand others	Advent approaching
		Advent Service at School		Advent Service to open RE Day
				Advent (3)
		Shelford Christmas Day Service		Advent (4)
Christmas	Christmas Holidays			
Epiphany		Epiphany at School	With love for one another	Epiphany, Feast of St. Mary
Ordinary time	Stories or themes from the New Testament			New Year’s Resolutions
	Take 5 – be active!			
		Candlemas Service at St. Mary’s		Candlemas (presentation of Jesus at the temple)
February Half Term				
Lent	Take 5 – give to others (Lenten promises)		Resilience – Push yourself and don’t give up!	Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Lent
				Lenten promises
				Jesus in the Desert
				Why live simply during Lent?
				Temptation, spring
		Daily Holy Week collective worship		Holy week: Up to Good Friday

		Easter Service at All Saints'		
Eastertide	Easter Holidays			
	Spreading God's word – Acts of the Apostles		Responsibility – <i>concentrate and work hard</i>	Easter Sunday, symbol of the egg
	Missionaries			
	Saints			
	Our own witness			
	Faith in Action	Ascension Service at St. Mary's		Ascension
	May Half Term			
Pentecost	Human relationships	Pentecost Service at School	So we can achieve our potential within a community of life-long learners	Pentecost Service
Ordinary Time	Rights and responsibilities for ourselves and all God's Children			Seasonal Change
	Feelings			
	Personal safety			
	Take 5 – connect (transition)			
				Transition
		Leavers' Service at St. Mary's		Farewell
	Summer 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:

Star	<u>Resilience</u>	<u>Kindness</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>	<u>Creativity</u>
	<p>I watch the sunrise:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm-A5NlkI8U">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vm-A5NlkI8U</a>  instrumental:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81p1OLB7yag">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81p1OLB7yag</a></p>		<p>Oh the love of my Lord is  the essence:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AruhqHocr3g">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AruhqHocr3g</a>  Entry/ exit music:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcBwtMVxoaM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcBwtMVxoaM</a></p>	
Vision	<p><u>Whole vision:</u>  All are welcome (Let us build a school – replace 'house' with 'school'):  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=js8RtT0mJpc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=js8RtT0mJpc</a> (with singing) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXxb2fJpze8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXxb2fJpze8</a> (instrumental)</p>			
	<u><i>We live and work in harmony</i></u>	<u><i>With love for one another</i></u>	<u><i>So that we can achieve our potential</i></u>	<u><i>Within a community of life-long learners</i></u>
Scrip- tures	<p><u>Live in harmony, live peaceably with all</u></p> <p>Make me a channel of your peace:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GS9ThG1Rx8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GS9ThG1Rx8</a></p>	<p><u>Love one another, as I have loved you</u>  John 13:34</p> <p><b>A new commandment:</b>  <a href="https://www.hymnall.net/en/hymn/h/1343">https://www.hymnall.net/en/hymn/h/1343</a></p>	<p><u>Be kind to one another, forgiving one another</u>  Ephesians 4:32</p> <p><u>Be Kind to one another:</u>  <a href="https://carolynshymns.com/be-kind-to-one-another.html">https://carolynshymns.com/be-kind-to-one-another.html</a></p>	<p><u>Many parts, one body</u>  1 Corinthians 12:12-14</p> <p>One Bread, One Body:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4nXfA1NM08">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4nXfA1NM08</a></p> <p>Entry/ exit music  We are many parts:  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0iGk2f-ayM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0iGk2f-ayM</a></p>

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.