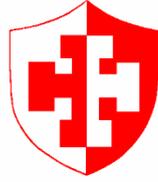


COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY DOCUMENT



Believe and Achieve

Mission Statement:

‘Christian values are the foundation upon which Prees C. E. School is built.

St Chad’s church is at the heart of our school and the wider community.
The cross of St Chad symbolises our link through the ages to the Cathedral of our
Lichfield Diocese.

We are committed to promoting Christian values such as love, peace, forgiveness and self-control, to
enable our children to develop into the people they are meant to be.’

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Collective worship is central to the life of Prees CE Primary School.
- It offers an opportunity for the whole school community to explore together the distinctive Christian beliefs and narrative that underpins our Anglican foundations and Christian character.
- It allows those present to experience and participate in living expressions of Christian worship that are inclusive, educational, God centred, affirm Christian beliefs and yet remain inclusive and educational.
- Together we celebrate our Christian values, vision and ethos and reflect upon their contribution to the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development of participants.
- Worship is inclusive, rooted in the Christian faith, but accessible to all members of the school community.
- It values and honours every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, gender, ability, background or beliefs.
- Opportunities to celebrate the Eucharist services are offered at significant seasons of the church calendar.
- The Governing Body in conjunction with the Headteacher, staff, and school community have responsibility to ensure the Trust Deed of the School is honoured.

Our Christian Ethos: 'Believe and Achieve'

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

As a Church of England School our attitudes and responses to all aspects of school life are based on Christian values. The life and teachings of Jesus inform the way that we behave as a community towards each other:

We have a well embedded values programme for Collective Worship, based on 'Values for Life'.

- **We aim to treat each other as unique and precious individuals made in the image of God.**

Therefore, Collective worship at Prees CE School includes the following objectives:

We respect the rights and feelings of everyone regardless of race, gender, religion, disability, social position, intelligence etc.

We set the distinctive values of the school in their Christian context

We give a significant place to the Bible relating this to the school's core values and learners' own lives.

We allow learners to explore and enjoy reflection, praise, prayer, and the rituals of Christianity (the Anglican tradition in particular)

We explore the Christian value of generosity and practical ways in which this can be expressed, in particular in response to current affairs.

- **We aim to care especially for the vulnerable, lonely, sad and those who find loving difficult.**

Therefore, Collective worship at Prees CE School includes the following objectives:

We are committed to including everyone in Collective worship, irrespective of personal faith.

We prepare children to live harmoniously in a world of diversity and difference.

We seek to make a difference to the lives of all members of the school community by engaging, challenging, encouraging and inspiring in a relevant way

- **We seek to promote Christian love throughout all of our work at school.**
- **We aim to demonstrate how people of faith make decisions about their life and behaviour based on the values that they hold.**
- **We seek to forgive each other; learning from our mistakes and starting afresh.**

Therefore,

We teach about the example of Jesus as a guide to the behaviour of Christians.

We try to create an atmosphere in which faith in God is recognised and respected.

We foster a reverential attitude to God and contribute to learners' understanding of Christian theological concepts and beliefs at an appropriate level.

We foster a search for meaning and values in life and a faith to live by.

We enable learners to develop an understanding of the person of Jesus Christ and the central position He occupies in the Christian faith.

We face up to the reality of how difficult it can be getting along with some people and through our Collective worship, nurture skills of tolerance, independence, patience and respect.

We allow time for personal reflection during our collective worship.

We choose themes that raise aspirations, inspire a high level of spiritual and moral reflection and challenge learners to take responsibility for their own conduct
We enable pupils to reflect on the experiences of Christian believers

- **We aim to give opportunities for children to develop their own spirituality.**

Therefore Collective worship at Prees CE School includes the following objectives:

We offer a range of experiences that enhance the spiritual development and response of the school community that are grounded in distinctively Christian teaching

We foster a thought-provoking atmosphere that allows for spiritual reflection and response

We learn about and reflect upon Christian Teaching, Biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that relates to the pupils' experience and to living together in community

We explore and develop understanding of the Trinitarian nature of Christianity, providing a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit

We try to enable pupils to develop as independent worshippers, participating in and leading worship.

We identify clearly the distinctive features of different Christian traditions in worship particularly local Anglican practice, including the Eucharist/ Communion

We provide opportunities to understand and celebrate the seasons of the Church year and Christian festivals including local celebrations.

We develop understanding of the nature and purpose of prayer and the part prayer may play within an individual's life and spiritual development and in the life of the worshipping community

We use a variety of settings, timings and environments as well as clergy from different Christian traditions to enrich worship

We make regular use of local church buildings for worship and try to promote an understanding of the significance of the symbolism used in church.

Linking with our Ethos

Policies

These attitudes and values are at the heart of all our school policies eg. Equality Plan, Behaviour and Anti Bullying, Special Educational Needs, Safeguarding.

Collective Worship is distinctively Christian, but we recognise the importance of times of assembly which allow the school community to:

- recognise and celebrate the beliefs and culture of others, particularly those represented in the school community
- to celebrate achievements of members of the school that are held to be of worth

- corporately share in problem solving and decision making that affects our school community.

MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Foundation Governors, in conjunction with the Governing Body, Headteacher, staff and school community have responsibility to ensure that the daily act of collective worship is consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and the trust deeds of the school.

The headteacher/worship co-ordinator has responsibility for managing collective worship on a day-to-day basis, ensuring all legal requirements are complied with.

This involves the planning of a programme for Collective Worship that ensures continuity, variety and a clear focus on Christian beliefs, teaching and festivals, and the way that these link with the values and life of the school.

Leaders ensure worship is relevant, creative, cohesive and will enrich the spiritual journey of participants.

The themes and values to be explored through worship times each term/year will be decided in advanced and shared with pupils and their parents.

Pupils are encouraged to participate in presenting worship, write prayers and half termly, each class plans their own worship time on the theme/value.

Monitoring and evaluating the impact of Collective Worship is an on-going process that involves input from staff and pupils, and takes place every term. Feedback provides insight into how worship influences the life of the community and is used to ensure ongoing relevance and improvement. At present the Head teacher and RE coordinator meet with the Foundation Governors to evaluate the unique Christian nature of Prees CE School, including the impact of Collective worship.

The worship co-ordinator keeps in touch with development in the subject and acts in an advisory capacity to colleagues, ensuring that Christian ethos and values are prioritised, where appropriate on the School Development Plan, to allow for INSET and resource development.

The Headteacher and worship co-ordinator are aware of the requirements of the section 48 (statutory inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspections with regard to worship, and will ensure that the school is striving to ensure that worship at this school develops and aspires to best practice as articulated in inspection criteria.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

There is always an aspect of developing the school's Christian values and practice on the School Development Plan. Currently, teachers who are being developed as leaders, are working to embed Christian Values throughout the Curriculum and all aspects of School life. We do not have a separate action plan for collective worship since it is integral to the whole school development. This is reflected in individual staff appraisal targets and all staff understand that they have their part to play.

The effectiveness is therefore evaluated termly as part of appraisal review meetings.

CPD focuses on

- themes and approaches
- development of resources/visits
- staff training and support
- pupil participation and response (RE coordinator and Worship coordinator talk to children about their responses. The School Council reviews each value covered half termly)

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

We recognise the legal right of withdrawal from worship for pupils at the request of parents and for staff, but encourage discussion with the relevant individuals to ensure that there is understanding of the aims and objectives of worship, and strategies for minimising the disruption caused by any withdrawals.

CURRENT PRACTICE

The pattern for worship each week at present is as follows:

	Grouping	Time	Place	Responsible
Monday	Whole school	10.00am	Hall	Head teacher
Tuesday	EYFS	9.45am	EYFS	Rev'd Paul
	Whole school	10.00am	Hall/ Church	
Wednesday	Whole school	9.05am	Hall	Music coordinator
Thursday	Key stage	10.00am	KS1 /Hall	Teachers
Friday	Whole	2.45pm	Hall	Head

school
celebrati
on

teacher

*In addition the school worships in Church on the following occasions Ash Wednesday, Pentecost, Advent, Easter and Christmas as well as half termly school worship.

*The Eucharist is celebrated in St Chad's for Ash Wednesday, Easter and other occasions through the year.

Parents and members of the congregation are invited on these occasions.

Visitors and outside speakers are invited to lead our worship on a regular basis.

Spring 2014: date ratified by the Governing Body

Spring 2017: date next review due

_____ the Chair of Governors

_____ the Headteacher/Worship coordinator