

Kildwick CE Primary School

Learning to Live, Living to love, Loving to learn

Version 7	Date Approved: Nov 2021	Next Review: Nov 2022
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Collective Worship Policy

1. Statement of Intent

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 is 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.

Our aspiration is to provide collective worship that is Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring

At Kildwick CE Primary School, the daily act of Collective Worship is highly valued and every effort is made to ensure that all children and staff take part in a high quality and meaningful experience offering a spiritual encounter with an inclusive Christian and educational context.

This Collective Worship policy also reflects the law (i.e. the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act) and the ethos of the school's Instrument of Government which states:

'Kildwick Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School is a school designated as one having a religious character and whose ethos is derived from a Church of England Foundation. Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. The school aims to serve its community by providing education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers all its pupils.'

Under law, Collective Worship is not designated curriculum time and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum. It will be distinctive and identifiable to meet the legal requirements.

Under no circumstances will pupils be asked to accept beliefs, which are contrary to their family background.

2. Through Collective Worship we aim to:

- Explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues

- Allow the whole school community to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- Offer the whole school community the opportunity to participate in worship in different ways, using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the liturgical and other traditions of the Anglican Church. Ensure that the approach is relevant to the age, aptitude and family background of the children.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all children and adults, to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

3. Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of Collective Worship in our school and, on a half-termly basis, this takes place in St Andrews Church. A table showing the timetable of Collective Worship for a typical week at school is attached to this policy.

We ensure that Collective Worship is properly resourced and each class has a Collective Worship basket which contains a cross, a candle, a children's Bible, coloured cloths for use at different times of the church year, DVDs and religious texts related to Bible stories.

We conduct Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way where there is opportunity for calm and reflection. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

The planning and co-ordination of Collective Worship involves pupils through our Collective Worship Council. The Council meets once a month and agrees themes for the half term and writes a prayer for each half term. Pupils will also help deliver Collective Worship.

We take the themes of our Collective Worship primarily from the traditions of the Christian faith, including our School Vision, and we often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes reflect and build on topics that are taught as part of the school curriculum. We plan Collective Worship as part of a series of themes, well in advance of the day it takes place.

A number of different local Christian leaders are invited to be involved in leading 'whole school' Collective Worship. The head teacher fully briefs these leaders on our Collective Worship Policy and associated aims and intent. These visiting Christian leaders are listed in the annex to this policy, along with leaders from other faiths who have been invited to speak in school.

We invite family and friends to Collective Worship in church and sometimes to school Collective Worship. This promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to celebrate the achievements of our children.

4. Conducting Collective Worship in School.

The format for Collective Worship in school is set out in the annex. The following principles will always be followed:

- Pupils will help lay the CW table at the beginning of the session

- The resources from the Collective Worship baskets will be used in each class to set out the table
- The Trinity prayer will be said at every Collective Worship
- The Lord's prayer will be said or sung at every Collective Worship
- A candle will be lit for collective Worship in the hall and electric tea light will be used in classrooms.

5. Right of withdrawal from Collective Worship

We expect all children and teachers to participate in Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship.

6. Monitoring and review

There are a range of people who will be involved in monitoring collective worship. These include:

- Teaching staff including the head teacher
- Foundation Governors
- Pupils
- Parents

The monitoring of Collective Worship goes beyond observation of individual Collective Worship sessions and includes:

- The planning process
- The themes of the sessions
- Pupil engagement and leadership
- The use of resources, policies, practices
- Training for Collective Worship and its impact.

Monitoring arrangements, templates and schedules will be agreed between the school and foundation governors each term and monitoring outcomes will be fed back to the Governing Body.

7. Support for delivery of Collective Worship (professional development)

Kildwick CE Primary School recognises the need for professional development of staff in the review and delivery of Collective Worship and will ensure that training is offered on both an individual and whole staff basis. Training will also be discussed and offered to those who come into the school to provide Collective Worship, including ordained ministers.

Signed:

**Headteacher
Tim Whitehead**

**Chairperson of Governors
John Perry**

**Representative of KCB
PCC
Geraldine Sands**

Date: Nov 2021

Annex to the Collective Worship Policy

Kildwick School schedule for Collective Worship

	Time	Notes
Monday	9.10am Whole School	Includes a celebration of birthdays and outside achievements
Tuesday	9.10am Whole School	Usually a visiting speaker
Wednesday	9.10am	To Include an element of singing practice
Thursday	9.10am	Whole school ed by school vision leaders
Friday	3pm Whole school 2.45pm in Church	To include achievements when in Church

Format for School Collective Worship:

Pupils in each class are responsible for:

Laying the Collective Worship table each morning (coloured cloth, candle, cross, Bible)
Preparing, planning and contributing to Collective Worship

Greeting and Gathering:

Music playing as a call to begin worship

'we invite you to join us in saying the trinity prayer together...'

'we invite you to join us in saying this half term's prayer together...'

Engaging:

A creative response to the bible passage through story/ drama/ talk/ activity, which will engage and inspire the pupils to think deeply about the theme

Responding:

'we invite you to take a minute to reflect in silence on today's message...'

'we invite you to say a prayer about today's message...'

'we invite you to sing our Collective Worship song...'

'we invite you to join us in saying or singing the Lord's prayer together...'

Sending:

Music playing as a close to worship

Visiting Speakers for Collective Worship:

Zephaniah Trust (John Froud)

Rev Rob Harris; South Craven Baptist Church. (or his successor)

Rev Paul Gamston; South Craven Evangelical Church.

Rev Peter Thomas ; the Congregational Church, Grassington

TBC; The Vicar of Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley.

Rev Claire Stainsby; Methodist Church

Other faith speakers are also invited into school, these include:

D-Rama
Humanist
Budha Land (Keighley)
Visitors from the interfaith centre - Islam

Structure for Collective Worship in Church:

(Takes place once every half term)

1. Video/music as parents/family gather
2. Welcome
3. Light candles (2 children from Class 1)
4. Song
5. Bible reading (usually dramatised by children)
6. Talk
7. Prayers (usually read by children & staff)
8. Peace
9. Stickers/Awards for the week
10. Song
11. The Grace
12. Music as children leave