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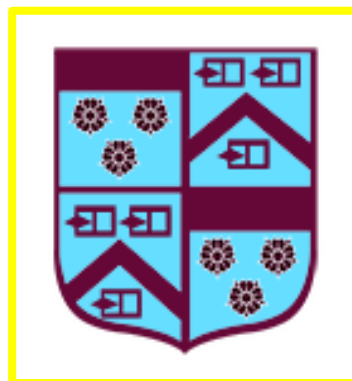


Mid-Trent
Multi Academy Trust

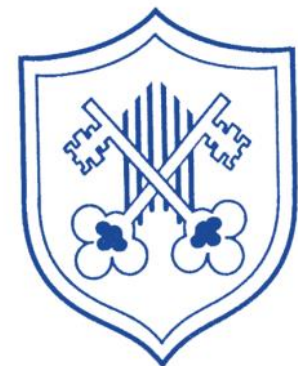
Collective Worship Policy February 2021



St Andrew's CE Primary
School



Colwich CE Primary School



St Peter's CE Primary School

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Approval History			
Version	Approver	Date	Included in the minutes of
1.0	LGB	28.03.2019	LGB Spring 2019
2.0	MAT Board	2.10.21	MAT Trust Board Meeting of Dec '21
3.0	CEO		NA



Vision Statement

'God is love, so we: Learn to Love; Love to Learn; Learn for Life.'

Everything that we do at Colwich is driven by our Christian vision, mission and values

God is love. If we keep on loving others, we will stay one in our hearts with God, and he will stay one with us.

(1 John 4.16 CEV)

Our vision is that every child is fully welcomed into our supportive community and discovers their value as a unique child of God. Through the highest quality of teaching and learning, we endeavour to nurture them so that they leave us as confident, curious and resilient life-long learners ready to fulfil their God given potential. We are guided by our Christian values to inspire one another to flourish through life's journey.

'Start children off on the right path. And even when they are old, they will not turn away from it.'

(Proverbs 22:6 NRIV)

Key Definitions

By definition, worship is *giving honour and reverence to a supreme being and our Christian worship is concerned with bringing praise, prayer, thanksgiving and adoration to God.*

Worship is an activity of response: in words, actions and thoughts.

The fundamental role of Collective Worship within our MAT

Collective worship plays a central part in the life of all schools within the Mid-Trent MAT, it is at the heart of the MATs foundation as a Christian Trust and is central to the daily life of each of its schools. Collective worship is a means by which the school's Christian vision is expressed and lived, offering the whole school community the opportunity to experience, participate in and take responsibility for the living expression of Christian worship, valued and honoured through the school's Anglican Foundation. This is set within the context of the corporate community of our school and its historic partnership with our local churches. Through worship we affirm every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, ability, background or religion.

Legal Requirements

Trust Deed

Our daily act of collective worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school. This requires worship to be consistent with the faith, principles and practices of the Church of England.

DfES guidance

We also take into account DfES legislation. The following link will take you to the current legislation.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collective-worship-in-schools>

1988 Education Act

We also take into account the 1988 Education that states,

*'.....all pupils in attendance at a maintained school **shall in each school day** take part in an act of collective worship',*

And, that this should be,

'.....mainly of a broadly Christian character'

Aims of worship

Worship within the Mid-Trent MAT will be:

- Appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of pupils.
- Provided in a variety of settings, groupings and timings, with a variety of leaders.
- Invitational and inclusive, celebrating the cultures and beliefs of the whole-school family.
- Celebrated as a whole-school, key stage or class.

Our Worship practices open doors for our learners through providing experiences and opportunities which:

- Develop learners' personal spiritual responses
- Foster reflection, meditation, prayer and silence
- Create an atmosphere in which God is both normal and natural
- Foster a reverential attitude to God
- Foster empathy and imagination, enabling pupils to participate in a variety of ways
- Actively involve learners in the delivery of worship in creative and imaginative ways (reading, poetry, drama, dance, quiet / silent reflection, prayer, singing)
- Explore and enjoy praise, prayer and the rituals of Christianity (the Anglican tradition in particular)
- Affirm the Christian faith and the central Christian status of Jesus as the Son of God
- Affirm the Christian belief in the Trinity and explore the meaning of each person of the Trinity
- Explore Eucharistic worship (where appropriate) within the Anglican tradition
- Enable learners to reflect on the experiences of Christian adherents
- Foster and value a search for a faith to live by
- Explore the schools Christian values to deepen learners understanding of them and how they relate to the school family, the local community and the wider world
- Learn about and reflect upon Christian teaching, Biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that relates to the learners' experience and to living together in community
- Worship together rather than apart
- Provide an evocative setting for worship that fosters spiritual growth and reflection
- Experience a broad spectrum of Christian tradition (various expressions of worship)
- Inspire pupils to explore further their own faith and tradition
- Encourage learners and staff to plan, participate and lead in worship

- Develop a sense of community and shared values
- Consider the needs of others and to foster charitable works
- Celebrate the highest achievements of the human spirit
- Celebrate achievements of members of the school family in every aspect of school life
- Foster a thought provoking atmosphere allowing for spiritual reflection and response
- Make regular use of local church buildings for worship

Within the Mid-Trent MAT we also open doors through:

- Celebrating the beliefs and cultures of others, particularly those represented in our school family.
- Celebrate the achievements of all members of our school family.
- Reinforcing the schools' expectations for respectful behaviour.
- Sharing in our local community.
- Sharing and celebrating in national and local events, which support learners in flourishing as children of God.

Practice and Organisation

All schools within the Mid-Trent MAT take part in a daily act of collective worship, however the organisation and the practices in each school vary as they are adapted to reflect the beliefs, values and vision of each individual school, Church and community.

Appendix A outlines the unique organisation and practices in place at our school.

Management of worship

Foundation members of each individual school's Local Academy Committee, along with the directors and the members of the Mid-Trent MAT have ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the Trust Deeds of all our schools are honoured. The strategic and operational management of this role, in our schools lies, with the Headteacher, who ensures that the distinctly Christian vision for the school is articulated, shared, understood and acted upon through daily acts of collective worship. Headteachers are assisted in their work by a worship coordinator and by all teaching staff who act as 'spiritual leaders' within our Church schools, each with a unique responsibility to support learners in developing their own spiritual awareness.

The school is also well supported by the local clergy and members of the Church who assist the school in planning, resourcing, managing and evaluating collective worship.

The programme of collective worship at Colwich is centred around the Christian values, with a different value explored through scripture, story and song each month. Learners are encouraged to reflect upon what the Bible teaches us about these values and why they are important in their everyday lives. Learners are encouraged and enabled to get involved with planning and leading acts of collective worship, and have frequent opportunities to contribute. At Colwich our worship team are beginning to work closely with the worship coordinator and the local Church to shape worship which is relevant and pertinent to them.

The Headteacher and the worship coordinator are regularly updated by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education regarding the latest information and best practice in collective worship and act as champions for worship within the school.

Monitoring, evaluating & action planning worship

Worship is monitored and evaluated frequently in order to ensure that it meets the needs of all who take part. Worship is an ongoing focus of development year on year and is continually improved as a result of a rigorous focus on the impact of worship. All stakeholders opinions are sought and valued, and where the need arises specific action plan will be created to further improve and develop worship practices in school.

In addition to internal evaluation and monitoring, the quality of collective worship and the impact this has on the whole school community is inspected regularly through the Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools (SIAMS) which explores the ways in which collective worship is an expression of the school's Christian vision.

The right of withdraw

Collective worship lies at the heart of all school life, whilst it is distinctively Christian in character and faith, it is delivered in a way that is relevant, inclusive and personal for all pupils and supports them on their own spiritual journey. As a result, the likelihood of parental requests to withdraw pupils from acts of collective worship should be few. However, we recognise the right of withdrawal from worship for pupils, at the request of parents, and for staff.

Should any parent/staff member wish to exercise this right we ask them to write to the Headteacher who will then invite them into school to discuss their concerns openly, affording dignity and respect to all.

Through this discussion, the following it will be necessary to establish:

- the elements of worship in which the parent/ staff member would object to the child taking part;
- the practical implications of withdrawal; and
- whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such worship, and, if so, how much.

Every attempt will be made to work with families to respond positively to a request to withdraw from collective worship following this discussion, providing that:

- such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school; and
- that the alternative provision would be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum as set out in Section 1 of the 1988 Education Act. (Circular 1/94)

Policy Review

Policy reviewed on 17.9.23 by Alison De Ste Croix, Headteacher

Policy presented to CEO

Policy due for review on, or before, 01.10.2023.

Appendix A: Collective Worship Organisation and Current Practices at Colwich CE Primary School

<p>Daily Acts of Worship As a school we value our worship time, and as such it holds a sacred place within our school timetable. The following daily acts of worship are planned each week, these are linked to the whole-school theme and allow for worshipping as a whole-school, class and key stage.</p> <p>Monday – Celebration Worship This is led by the Headteacher and introduces the theme and scripture to be explored through worship this week.</p> <p>Tuesday – Story and Scripture This is a key staged based worship, which gives pupils time to explore and reflect on the Bible stories (KS1) or scripture (KS2) presented in whole-school worship, more deeply.</p> <p>Wednesday – Songs of Praise This is a whole-school gathering, led by the worship lead. It includes songs of praise as well as time to be still and reflect on Christian Values</p> <p>Thursday – Worship in Action This is a class led worship, led by teachers. It explores Christian values through reflection, prayer and practical application. It encourages children to engage with the contemporary in the light of what they have learnt and experienced in worship, helping them to flourish and serve God.</p> <p>Friday – Community Worship This is a whole-school gathering with an act of worship led by representatives for the local church and worship team. It includes prayers, praise and other acts of worship.</p>	<p>Pupil-Led Worship At Colwich pupils have an active role in planning and delivering our daily acts of worship. A team of Spiritual Ambassadors are elected each year from across the school for this important role. They meet regularly to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • evaluate worship • suggest prayers and hymns • Suggest key figures to explore who demonstrate our focus values • Plan worship <p>Within our worship, pupils are invited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light candles • Read prayers • Perform elements of worship (eg. reading, drama, procession).
<p>Planning and Organisation Worship is planned through Christian values and a focus value is explored through scripture each half-term. The school's Christian values are included within the cycle and Headteacher awards, presented each Monday, are presented to pupils' who demonstrate these values each week. For 2023-2024, the values explored are:</p> <p>Autumn 1 Trust (Truthfulness) Autumn 2 Koinonia (Thankfulness/Christmas) Spring 1 Endurance (Perseverance/Easter) Spring 2 Compassion (Service/ Generosity) Summer 1 Friendship (Respect) Summer 2 Courage (Forgiveness)</p> <p>Worship is planned for all by the Headteacher/Worship Lead/Clergy to ensure consistency and depth to every element.</p>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation The quality and impact of worship is monitored regularly within the school's monitoring and evaluation cycle. As part of this monitoring observations of worships and reviews of class reflection logs are conducted as well as pupil voice activities which allow worship to be understood through the eyes of our children. Annual questionnaires with pupils and parents are conducted and feed into our monitoring and evaluation schedule. Collective worship is part of our continual development plans and as such is ever evolving and improving.</p> <p>Prayer Our school prayer was written by our children through the worship team, with support from our Foundation LAC members and members of the Church. (NEED TO DEVELOP)</p> <p>Partners in Worship Pupils attend worship at St. Michael's and All angels regularly. They attend school-led worship in Church at Harvest, Easter, Christmas and the 'Founder's day' as a minimum. Each class also lead worship in Church throughout the school year. The Church team join us for worship weekly, and are instrumental in designing and presenting worship in exciting and interesting ways. Key stage 2 children attend Wednesday prayers in church where families are also invited to attend. Parents and families are invited into school regularly to join us in worship and celebration.</p>