

## SIDDINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL & KEMBLE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Our vision is – ‘To have fun, do our very best, and look after everyone in a caring, **Christian**, community’.

Siddington, as a church school, focuses on caring for everyone. This is taught by Jesus through the parable of The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25). By caring for everyone in our community, everyone is then enabled to have fun and to do their very best.’

In both schools children and staff will use our values of Respect, Compassion, Courage, Truthfulness, Forgiveness and Thankfulness to show how we put our vision into action.

Our trust deed informs this policy and practice of collective worship at Siddington CofE School

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Please note that Kemble is not a Church of England School, and some assemblies / worship may alter due to needs within the school or community and they may not always have a Christian focus although they will always follow the school values.

Members of staff responsible	Mrs Carol Dougill
Working party responsible	Ethos
Date agreed with staff	June 2018
Date discussed with pupils	NA
Date approved at Local Governing Body (LGB)	
Frequency of policy review	Triennial
Date next review due	June 2021

#### Document Version Control

Issue Number	Issue Date	Summary of changes
1.0	June 2015	New policy
2.0	June 18	Adapted from guidance from Gloucestershire
2.1	Sept 18	New times and groups added to worship at Siddington

#### Introduction

Collective worship is central to the life and purposes of the Church school and is fundamental to the development of its Christian foundation, vision, values and ethos. The Senior Leadership Team will be responsible for establishing policy in consultation with the governing body. Policy and practice is informed by the Trust Deed and Ethos Statement of the school.

Collective worship provides a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story, the mutual giving and receiving of worth as well as times of reflection and prayer. We aim for our collective worship to be inspirational and transformational. Parish clergy are welcomed at all times in our schools and lead worship on a regular basis.

The Church school is a community which is inspired by the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. God the Father, the source of all being and life; God the Son, who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection; and God the Holy Spirit, who makes Christ known in the world. The fundamental part that worship plays in the life of the school requires that it is given the highest priority and there is an expectation that *all* members of the community (children and all staff) will be present other than in the most exceptional circumstances.

### **Legal Framework**

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils that takes account of their age and aptitude. The 1988 Education Reform Act states that parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. However, as collective worship occupies such a central place in the life of the Church school, there is an expectation that parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the headteacher to discuss their concerns and requirements.

The governors in a Church school have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact worship on the school community in consultation with the headteacher.

### **Aims**

Collective worship in our schools aim to be inclusive, invitational and inspiring and also:

- ❖ Provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to respond to the presence, power and peace of God.
- ❖ Evoke a sense of beauty, awe, wonder.
- ❖ Enable children to become familiar with the Bible and grow in their appreciation that for Christians it is God's word.
- ❖ Provide opportunities for reflection, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality.
- ❖ Help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- ❖ Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well know Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes and home time.
- ❖ Offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship.
- ❖ Strengthen and support the school community, giving expression to, and reaffirming, the core Christian values which underpin the school's vision, policies, curriculum and moral code.

- ❖ Develop a sense of self-worth and celebrate the gifts that each child and adult brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God.
- ❖ Reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and learn to appreciate the significance of mystery i.e. that we can't understand and explain everything.
- ❖ Foster a concern for others within the school community and wider world.
- ❖ Deepen appreciation of the gift of the natural world and the importance of acting responsibly toward the environment.
- ❖ Encourage respect of other people's religious beliefs and practices.

### ORGANISATION:

Siddington CE School

DAY / TIME	THEME	LEAD
Monday 9:05am Whole school & all staff	Value or unit based on worship year	Executive head or head of school
Tuesday 9:00am Whole school	Bible stories & learning from them	Open the book team (children help)
Wednesday Whole school	Worship through song or church members – Rev, Bob Morris or Rev. Jennifer McKenzie timetabled	Head of school or SLT
Thursday 10:05am Class worship – all staff	Church members (PSALMS group or Rev. McKenzie) & year 6 led whole school worship	PSALMS group / Rev. McKenzie or Year 6 pupils
Friday 9:05am Whole school & staff & parents	Celebration worship & reflecting upon week	Executive head or head of school (Year 6 assist)

Kemble Primary School

DAY / TIME	THEME	LEAD
Monday 1:05pm	Value or unit based on worship year	Executive head / head of school
Tuesday 9:00am	Theme based (church visitors)	Community members
Wednesday 1:00pm	Singing together	Senior teacher
Thursday 9:00am	Bible stories & learning from them	Open the book team
Friday 2:30pm	Celebration assembly	Executive head / head of school

### PLANNING WORSHIP

Our worship is planned by staff, clergy and pupils for a whole year and is based upon:

- The Christian year & Anglican Tradition
- Our core Christian school values
- The Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning – which teach children about living harmoniously together (Kemble only)
- How children evaluated the worship and assemblies from the previous year
- Children’s views and feelings when they engage in planning their worship
- The use of liturgy (patterns of worship) to order our worship

#### SETTING THE ATMOSPHERE (worship is usually for 30 minutes)

- The school hall is generally used for all our worship unless class worship takes place or we need to celebrate our beautiful grounds when we have outside worship under the trees. We also use our local church for certain worship times
- The hall has a focal point with a table for a candle and our cross on a cloth based upon the liturgical colours of the seasons of the Church Year
- We try to make worship a special time for the children. Children enter to music or in silence to create a calm, reflective and open atmosphere. We sometimes use a bell to call the children to worship.
- A greeting is used as a point of welcome and the children are taught to respond appropriately (a range of greetings are used depending upon our theme)
- We try to engage the children and make worship exciting, active, celebratory, contemplative, or simply an opportunity to experience God and find solace. We may start with our treasure box (containing an object, Bible reading, puppet, piece of artwork or poem), a film clip or drama piece carried out by prepared pupils or a key question.
- We encourage respect of other people’s views and religious beliefs and practices.
- We make links between Bible stories, our values and how children can learn from what they have learnt and link this to their everyday lives
- Children then have a time to respond to what they have heard or learnt and this can be in the form of quiet or silent reflection and prayer. Prayers can link to the theme or can be collects (prayers appropriate to particular seasons). Children are asked to lead or offer prayers as well as the worship leaders.
- We send children out of worship in a calm and quiet manner, often with a directive to think about their worship and what they have learnt or what they will take away. Some children offer evaluations

#### **SUPPORT FOR WORSHIP**

Staff and visiting worship leaders can access all our resources which give guidance for each part of the worship (planning, greetings, music, artefacts, prayers and evaluation sheets). Siddington resources are kept in the recess near the worship area and in the head teacher’s office and in Kemble they are held in the RE cupboard and head teacher’s office.

#### **MONITORING COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

The school ethos committee monitors the impact of collective worship in school and do this by reviewing the plans for collective worship, visiting worship / assemblies and talking with pupils. All visitors are encouraged to evaluate worship so that we can learn and grow from these comments. The aim of this is to continually develop and strengthen our collective worship. The head teacher reports to the local governing body and to the Corinium Education Trust 6 times per year.