

## **THRUSINGTTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

#### **OUR ETHOS**

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*"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."*

Jeremiah 29:1

Our vision is a passionate commitment to learning and recognition of the uniqueness of the individual. We are driven by our desire to ensure all children achieve their best in a respectful and trusting environment, in partnership with parents, the Church and our community, as one big family.

#### **RATIONALE**

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Our school Collective Worship Policy sets out our commitment to ensuring our school and all of those associated with it have the opportunity to explore their beliefs and to be supported in their spiritual and moral development through school worship and the underlying ethos and conduct of our school based in our school's Christian Values.

Our Collective Worship is planned to be inclusive and inspiring. It forms part of the core of our school and supports our school's understanding of our Christian Values and the overarching Christian character of our school. At Thrussington school we intend Collective Worship to be an educational activity that develops and contributes to the academic achievement, well being and personal development of all our staff and students.

Thrushington school intends our programme of Collective Worship to:

- Bring our school together so that all can experience a sense of belonging and an atmosphere of inclusivity;
- Empower our school community to reflect upon what is discussed and how it impacts their lives in school and beyond;
- Be a means of challenging our learners, regardless of their background and beliefs, to consider their own spiritual journey and to support them by providing opportunity for prayer or reflection;
- Engage our learners through various expressions, (for example music, prayer or art);
- Include Christian teachings and biblical resources that support our learners in understanding and demonstrating our school's Christian Values and ethos;
- Be a well-rounded contribution to our pupils' moral, social, emotional, cultural and spiritual development through thought-provoking discussion and learning;
- Assist our learners with an understanding of the Trinity as God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;

- Educate our learners about Christian and Anglican traditions and to foster an attitude of reverence and respect;
- Celebrate the achievements of our school community both as a collective and as individuals and at significant occasions and festivals.

Our school is guided in our approach to Collective Worship by the following principles:

- Collective Worship should be a distinct aspect of the school day and should be treated with appropriate respect and reverence;
- Collective Worship should provide knowledge and experiences which will enable our learners' spiritual development to flourish;
- Collective Worship should be a means of expressing the ethos and values of the school;
- Collective Worship should be educational and should contribute not only to the pupils' Religious Education but should also aim to provide positive educational outcomes for the pupils by, for example:
  - Encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
  - Learning about diversity and equality;
  - Considering and facing differences;
  - Supporting an atmosphere of learning.
- The programme of Collective Worship should be mindful that the school community may include those who are non-religious or of a different faith and as such it must not be a means to offend or insult.

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#### LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

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Our school meets our legal requirement to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and foundation.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers, contact needs to be made with the Head Teacher.

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#### PLANNING THE COLLECTIVE WORSHIP PROGRAMME

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The law sets out no requirements of Collective Worship other than it should take place daily. Our School tries hard to ensure that Collective Worship enables our students and staff to come together whilst also allowing opportunity for some Collective Worship to be delivered in key stage groups to enable an age appropriate understanding and encourage discussion, challenge and reflection.

The programme of Collective Worship is overseen by the Head Teacher and each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship and where available to reflect upon the success of the same. Leaders of worship are encouraged to use a four step planning structure to encompass 'gathering', 'engaging', 'responding' and 'sending'.

We acknowledge the need and importance of separating Collective Worship from other assembly activities and we attempt to do so by playing music or sharing a collective moment of prayer.

Our students are encouraged to actively participate within Collective Worship and are given opportunities to lead the School in prayer. The school's Collective Worship is supported by the Foundation Governors and is monitored through the School's Ethos Committee.

In planning the Collective Worship for our School the leaders are encouraged to use a number of resources.

#### OUR PROGRAMME OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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	<b>Lead</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>When</b>
<b>Monday</b>	EM	Whole school <b>theme for the week</b>	Mobile	9.10am-9.25am
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>AO (EYFS/KS1) LC (KS2)</b>	Hymn practice & Worship	Classroom	EYFS/KS1 – 2.50pm-3.05pm KS2 – 2.30pm-2.45pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>LC</b>	Whole school <b>theme for the week</b>	Mobile	1.00pm-1.15pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>AO (EYFS/KS1) LC (Y3+4) KH (Y5+6)</b>	Values/citizenship focus (class worship)	Classroom	EYFS/KS1 – 2.50pm-3.05pm <b>Y3+4 – 1.45 – 2pm Y5+6 – 3 – 3.15pm</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>AO</b>	Celebration	Mobile	2.55pm-3.10pm

Collective Worship is led by the Headteacher and class teachers. On occasions, the acts of worship may be led by a visitor to the School. Visitors are encouraged to consider that Collective Worship should enhance our pupil's learning and development without seeking to sway students towards any particular religious or non-religious belief.

Our School's programme of Collective Worship generally focuses on one of our core School Values throughout each half term. The aim is to deepen our students' understanding of our core values and to celebrate their successes in this regard. Throughout our programme of Collective Worship we recognise key aspects of the church's year and also significant and important national events and issues.

In our weekly Whole School Celebration, the achievements of our pupils are celebrated. Parents may be invited to attend and contributions from those students who have displayed, with vigour, understanding of or commitment to our core school values are recognised. We aim to provide our pupils with not only recognition for their hard work but also provide and aspirational experience to all students to strive to be and do the best that they can. Our Whole School Celebration hopes to provide our pupils with an opportunity for spiritual, moral, social and emotional reflection and development.