



Collective Worship Policy

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St Paul's CofE Primary School & Nursery

Our Vision

'Learning in God's Love'

Stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong (1 Corinthians 16:13)

Our vision is that everyone at St Paul's CofE Primary School and Nursery knows that they are loved and valued by God. We help everyone to grow in courage and compassion. Children are encouraged to reach their full potential and flourish as they learn together as a community.

Introduction

Collective worship is central to daily life at St Paul's. It is a time where we come together as a community to reflect, to learn, and to connect with our Christian vision.

Worship at St Paul's is inclusive, invitational and reflective. It provides space for children and adults to pause, think and consider big ideas, while also reinforcing the values and beliefs that underpin our school.

We are clear that collective worship is not separate from school life — it is part of who we are and how we live out our vision each day.

Aims

Through collective worship, we aim to:

- Develop a clear understanding of our Christian vision and values
 - Help children understand that they are known, loved and valued by God
 - Provide opportunities for reflection, prayer and stillness
 - Explore Bible stories and Christian teachings in meaningful ways
 - Encourage children to think about how beliefs influence actions and choices
 - Build a strong sense of community and belonging
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Weekly Structure of Worship

Collective worship takes place daily and follows a clear structure across the week:

Monday – Class Worship

Class-based worship allows teachers to tailor themes to the needs of their children. It provides a

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smaller, more personal space for reflection and discussion, helping children to engage more deeply.

Tuesday – Vicar-led Worship

Claire Holt, vicar of St Paul's Church, leads worship focused on Bible stories and Christian teachings.

These sessions provide a strong theological foundation and are a key part of our church-school partnership.

The themes from this worship are then carried into classrooms through prayer corners, where children revisit and reflect on the message. This ensures that learning is not lost when they leave the hall, but instead becomes embedded and meaningful.

Wednesday – Singing Worship

Singing worship brings the school together in a joyful and shared experience. Through singing, children engage with Christian messages and values in a memorable and uplifting way.

Thursday – House Worship

House worship focuses on our core values: Courage, Compassion and Community.

Children explore these through stories, including stories from the Bible, and consider how these values can be lived out in everyday life.

Friday – Celebration Worship

Celebration worship recognises achievements across the school. It is an opportunity to celebrate effort, progress and success, reinforcing a strong sense of belonging and shared pride.

Approach to Worship

Worship at St Paul's is:

- Inclusive – all children are welcomed and valued, regardless of background or belief
- Invitational – children are encouraged, but never required, to participate in prayer or reflection
- Reflective – time is given for stillness, thinking and personal response

We use a range of approaches, including storytelling, music, discussion, prayer and reflection, to ensure worship is engaging and meaningful for all children.

Prayer and Reflection

Prayer is a natural part of collective worship and school life.

Children are introduced to a range of ways to pray and reflect. Prayer corners in classrooms provide ongoing opportunities for children to revisit themes from worship, reflect independently and develop their own spiritual thinking.

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The Role of the Church

Our partnership with St Paul's Church is a key strength. The vicar plays an active role in school life, leading weekly worship and supporting the development of children's understanding of Christianity.

This relationship strengthens the school's Christian distinctiveness and provides children with meaningful connections to the local church community.

Inclusion and Respect

We recognise and respect that children and families come from a range of backgrounds and beliefs.

Collective worship is planned to be accessible to all, promoting respect, understanding and openness. All children are included and valued.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from collective worship. Any parent considering this is encouraged to speak with the Headteacher.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective worship is monitored by school leaders and governors to ensure it remains meaningful, inclusive and aligned with the school's vision.

Children's voice is an important part of this, helping to shape and improve worship over time.

Reviewed April 2026

Next review April 2028

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