

St Paul's Church of England Primary School Oswaldtwistle



'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young but set an example for the believers in speech; in conduct; in love; in faith and in purity.' (1 Timothy 4:12)

Collective Worship Policy

June 2025

Agreed by Governors: XX/XX/XX

Timetables and themes are co-ordinated by E Procter (Subject Lead)

'Working, learning, playing and worshipping together'

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| Monday | Collective Worship Led by every member of teaching staff on a rota basis |
| | Picture News Broadcast Led by KS2 Pupils and broadcast to each classroom via interactive boards and PA system |
| Tuesday | Class Worship Picture News Worship led by Class Teachers (in the Summer Term this is with the next year's class to aid transition) |
| Wednesday | Prayer and Praise Led by the Headteacher |
| | Worship Together Video Worship from Blackburn Diocese |
| Thursday | Collective Worship Led by a member of the clergy |
| Friday | Celebration Worship Led by members of the SLT Parents invited to attend |

Collective Worship Policy

Fundamentals of Collective Worship

As a Church of England school our predominant emphasis lies within the Christian religion.

'Working, learning, playing and worshipping together'

At St Paul's we believe that Collective Worship is an essential component when living out our Christian Vision of setting an example, "*for the believers in speech; in conduct; in love; in faith and in purity (1 Timothy 4:12).*" The worship that all our school members take part in is rooted in Christian teachings and allows all who take part to develop ideas of personal faith.

- Collective Worship is in conformity with the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England as laid down in the Trust Deed
- Collective Worship contributes to our Christian Vision, mission statement and aims and ethos of the school
- It contributes to the celebration and exploration of the values of the school
- Collective Worship is at the heart of the school life and we see it as an essential part of all pupil's education
- Every pupil is entitled to develop and flourish as a child of God

Aims:

- To present God as a living god who is relevant, alive and active in the world today
- To give children the chance to experience the wonders of God's world and delight in the experiences that childhood offers
- To provide formal and informal prayer opportunities
- To develop staff and pupils' spirituality
- To develop an understanding of the Trinity
- To create an environment in which children and adults have the opportunity to worship, celebrate and give thanks
- To develop knowledge of the Christian faith and Bible stories
- To develop links with the church
- To worship God through Jesus
- To learn about a wide range of multi cultural faiths, beliefs and attitudes and compare to the Christian faith
- To contribute to the moral and spiritual development of pupils
- To develop pupils general knowledge and understanding of current events
- To develop our pupils as courageous advocates and global citizens
- To respect other people and their faiths
- To provide children with the opportunity to develop Speaking & Listening skills and performance skills
- To appreciate and enjoy singing as an act of worship
- To participate in group preparation and presentation

Worship

'Working, learning, playing and worshipping together'

Worship at St Paul's Church of England Primary is an open and voluntary activity. It is an expression of a relationship with God and a desire to serve and love God and others. Collective Worship is a celebration of, awe, wonder and joy.

Acts of Collective Worship.

Staff and pupils at St Paul's Church of England Primary take part in an act of worship every day. Worship contributes significantly to our children's educational development. It develops knowledge and understanding about the Christian faith, other major religions world issues and many areas of school life.

We create and sustain an atmosphere of respect and reverence with the use of music, hymns, singing, stories, display, prayer and times of silence. Christian symbols are displayed and offered at each Worship. Wherever possible, children participate in the planning and delivery of Worship.

Collective or Class worship begins at 9.00am and lasts for 20 minutes. On Fridays, parents and Governors are invited to Celebration Worship. It starts at 9.00am where certificates, awards and medals are presented.

The children also lead an afternoon act of worship through our Broadcast on a Monday. It starts at 1.07pm and last around 5minutes. This is an introduction to the Picture News story of the week, the Christian values demonstrated in the story and a link to either; British Values, UN Rights of the Child or the Protected Characteristics. All classes watch via the interactive whiteboards and light a candle to signify the worship time. This child led worship is an opportunity for pupils to follow our Vision, explore what it means to be a global citizen and continue to share the Good news of Jesus Christ.

In addition to these acts of worship in school, a Eucharist service is held in school at least once per term and our school attends special church services at Harvest, Christingle/ Christmas and Easter. We also invite members of the church community to our Christmas nativity and for our annual carol service. Each class leads whole school worship at least once during the school year and there is a Year 6 Leaver's Worship at the end of the year in church.

Parental Rights

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship. A written application from the parent must be made to the Headteacher. Children cannot be withdrawn from any other whole school gatherings i.e concerts/ notices etc. Since the conduct of the school reflects the Church of England ethos, removal of children from Collective Worship will not insulate pupils from the religious life of the school.

Complaints

It is hoped that any complaint will be resolved by the Headteacher in consultation with the Governors. However, if the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved then formal procedures come into play and the complaint would be referred to the Diocesan Board of Education.

Legal Basis

Collective Worship in church schools is governed by both the 1944 and 1988 Education Acts as well as by the Trust Deed of the school.

We take opportunity to offer prayer and worship opportunities in addition to the daily act of Collective Worship in school. These types of collective worship include:

- Reflection times in lessons
- Quiet and reflective prayer corners in every class and near the entrance.
- An outside prayer garden and outdoor reflection area.
- Reflection in RE/PSHE
- Prayers at lunchtime and home time and within classrooms
- Individual opportunities for prayer throughout the day
- Church visits for each year group as part of the curriculum
- Church visits on celebration dates
- Singing and listening to Christian hymns
- Harvest festival, carol service within school.

Content for Collective Worship

Worship is based on any theme or subject relating to religious beliefs or moral and spiritual concepts. During the year the school will try to focus on:

- Christian Values (see Diocesan materials)
- Significant people
- Links to 'God's big story'
- Picture News
- The Church Year
- Celebration of curriculum work
- Main faiths and beliefs
- Themes relating to the school/ class/ time of year
- Loss or death
- Multicultural Christianity
- Feelings of anger/ jealousy/ joy/ fear etc
- Birthdays/ new babies/ christenings
- Expressing concern
- Awe & Wonder of the world through pattern, mystery, change, exploration
- Common values of the school
- Topical events
- Sporting/ hobbies achievement in and out of school
- Stories which illustrate faith themes/ calendars

Acts of Worship will include:

- A welcome /call to worship
- Lighting of the candle
- The worship prayer
- Sharing the Peace of the Lord

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- Christian teaching
- A hymn/song
- Prayer
- Reflection/quiet time

To encourage the followings of Christianity we also include:

- Festivals, celebrations, stories and information about other faiths, especially the Muslims faith to help our school live as a peaceful community
- Moral and current issues within the news, our school and other religions
- Celebration of curriculum work
- Topical events
- Sporting/ hobbies achievement in and out of school
- Themes relating to the school/class time of year

Church Links

St Paul's Church of England Primary has strong links with St Paul's Church. The parish vicar leads acts of collective worship and delivers communion in school. Other members of the church lead and attend acts of worship. Classes visit church throughout the year when it links with an RE topic. The church invites school children and families to special services throughout the year. Major events such as harvest, Christingle, Easter and the Leavers' Service are celebrated in church.

Governing Body

The parish vicar is a governor and is supported by other church members on the governing body.

Resources:

These will be purchased as necessary by the Worship and/or RE co-ordinator using budget allocation.

June 2025
Next review: June 2027

Mrs E Procter
Subject Leader