



Huby C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Shining Together Through Courage, Connection and Curiosity.

Guided by Christian values, we inspire every child to let their light shine through a love of learning.

'Let your light shine for all to see' Matthew 5:16

Approved by:	Full Governing Body	Date: September 2026
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Last reviewed on:

Next review due on or by:	September 2028
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Adapted from the
Diocese of York model
policy

Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the distinctiveness of our school, reaffirms our vision and associated values of 'Let your light shine for all to see' Matthew 5:16 shining together through Courage, Connection and Curiosity.

It celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year.

The daily act of collective worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

In Church of England schools, collective worship is seen as more than a daily 'awe and wonder' moment. It is the unique heartbeat of the school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together. We want pupils to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with Jesus Christ and with Christian faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives...Collective worship in schools, including prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity, provide a vital opportunity for this.

Therefore, Collective Worship at Huby C of E Primary School is planned to

- Explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues. In doing so, it will reflect on moral values such as compassion, gratitude, justice, humility, forgiveness and reconciliation; and develop virtues such as resilience, determination and creativity that develop character and contribute to academic progress.
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice
- Be inspirational and inclusive, engaging all learners. They can talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- Help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- An opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

We acknowledge the right of parents/guardians to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. The school must comply with any request from a parent to withdraw their child and parents are not required to give their reasons for wanting to do so. Should a parent/guardian wish to withdraw their child from Collective Worship we ask that they inform the school via the school office email.

We will endeavour to communicate clearly the place of inclusive and invitational Collective Worship to ensure that parents are in possession of all the necessary information. However, should a parent/guardian request that their child be withdrawn we will not attempt to persuade them to alter their decision. If a pupil is withdrawn from Collective Worship the school is required to provide supervision but should not incur any additional cost in so doing.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

At Huby C of E Primary School, we are committed to the inclusion of all pupils and community members as we 'shine together through Courage, Connection and Curiosity'. This includes equality of education and opportunity for all pupils, staff, parents and carers receiving services from our school, governors and other representatives who work with our school, irrespective of race, gender, disability, faith or religion or socio-economic background. We welcome our duties under the Equality Act 2010 relating to schools to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations in relation to the protected characteristics as outlined in our Equality Policy.

Planning Collective Worship

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by lighting 3 candles and offering an opportunity to reflect at the beginning and end of each worship.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4-stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation. A worship-planning group meets once a term led by the Headteacher and includes our Values Leaders as part of the planning process. These meetings are also an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. Pupils are actively encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective worship. Our Foundation Governor is given the opportunity to attend our planning meetings and is kept updated on any changes and evaluations. The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Our Headteacher and we use the Roots and Fruits programme to help inform our planning.

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Whole School Worship is held 4 times a week and include two Values based Worships, a Singing worship (featuring the learning and singing of Christian themed songs) and a Celebration Worship. These are taken by the Headteacher, sometimes supported by values leaders.

Class worship is held once a week and we use Picture News to support this. In Key Stage 2, these are led by the Values Champion of the class with support from the class teacher. In EYFS and Key Stage 1, the class teachers lead these with some support from Values Leaders.

Once a fortnight, 'Open the Book' visit the school to lead a Collective Worship where they encourage pupil involvement to retell stories from the Bible. Other visitors have included York Schools and Youth Trust,

Acts of worship generally follow themes that are linked to the schools vision and values and include the pattern of the church's year.

Visitors

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher in line with our visitor policy.

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship, is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors on a termly basis. All who deliver worship will be observed on a termly basis. This process supports the school's self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body. Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in weekly class worship, questionnaires and pupil voice. All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York(SIAMS).