

Hose Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.

Colossians 3:22

Approved by _____ Head teacher

Approved by _____ Chair of Governors

Reviewed –

Hose Church of England Primary school Christian Vision

‘Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.’

Colossians 3.22

Hose Church of England Primary School endeavours to provide a caring Christian environment where everyone is valued and respected. Rooted in our strong Christian ethos, we aim to create a loving and supportive community where pupils, staff, and families can grow together in faith, character, and wisdom. Our daily act of worship, known as "**Gathering Together**," is a special time for all of us to reflect, share, and encounter the love of Jesus through prayer, praise, and conversations about God.

Our vision is inspired by the Bible verse:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."
(Colossians 3:22)

This serves as the foundation for all that we do, guiding us to approach every task, relationship, and challenge with love, dedication, and humility. Through **daily collective worship**, we provide pupils with an encounter with Jesus, fostering an atmosphere where Christian values such as **thankfulness, respect, courage, generosity, friendship, trust, fairness, and community** are lived out daily. These values shape how we interact with each other, helping our pupils to become compassionate, thoughtful, and responsible members of our school and the wider world.

Through our Christian foundation, we embrace **British Values**—democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for those of all faiths and beliefs—equipping our pupils to become global citizens who understand and appreciate diversity, tolerance, and responsibility.

Themes in our collective worship are also linked to the **Big Bible Story Frieze** from *Understanding Christianity*, exploring how the overarching narrative of the Bible speaks to our lives today. We engage with stories that teach us about God’s love, justice, and mercy, encouraging our pupils to reflect on their own actions and how they can contribute to making the world a better place.

In **collective worship**, we seek to create opportunities for all children to connect with God, explore their faith, and grow in wisdom, love, and service, while being prepared for the challenges of life beyond school. Together, as a community, we aim to work with all our hearts, as though working for the Lord, in everything we do.

Collective Worship

At Hose C of E Primary School we believe that collective worship plays a central role in our school's life. It provides us with valuable opportunities to reaffirm our values and ethos. It is also a time when we can learn about the world we live in. It offers important opportunities to strengthen our sense of community, belonging and inclusiveness and to reinforce the respect and care we have for each other. This is also a time when we can make a significant contribution to the religious, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of those present.

Our motto is 'We learn, we play, we work, we pray.' Is reinforced through our gathering together in worship as we reflect on the story or experience shared and look at ways of helping to make our world a better place. Prayers, written by our children reflect this and we share the children's prayers during our worship time.

Collective worship takes place in a supportive, inclusive environment, which recognises and seeks to develop the personal worth of each person. It does not pre-suppose any particular religious' commitment or affiliation, and the different experiences, beliefs and starting points of individuals are recognised and valued. Individual integrity is always cherished.

Collective worship is an important part of our school day. It is a time where we come together to pray, reflect, give thanks, be still, celebrate, share and sing.

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide:

- An opportunity for all staff and children to come together
- Time to listen, reflect and learn from a Bible story
- Time to share our thoughts, knowing and understanding that's it's ok to say how we feel in a non-judgemental environment
- Time to think about the wider world issues
- Time to celebrate our personal achievements and ability to help make the world a better place
- Time to reinforce our Christian values
- Time to think of others in the world, whether it is to celebrate or feel sorrow
- A quiet time to think and reflect

Approaches and Arrangements for Collective Worship

Liturgy and Lighting the Candle

We hold daily acts of collective worship in our school. We have our candle lit with both the bible and our Cross close by. We display our current Christian value each week and each classroom has a Reflection Station – where children have the opportunity to write prayers and have some quiet time.

We view collective worship time as a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect everyone to behave in an appropriate way. We ask that everyone is quiet and thoughtful and listens carefully. Everyone is expected to enter and exit the room in a calm, respectful manner.

Leading

Our collective worships are led by the Headteacher, teachers and visitors from a range of backgrounds i.e. local community, clergy and other local organisations (Melton Storehouse, The Royal British Legion).

Pupils are part of the planning and organisation of our collective worship, for example, they may plan a collective worship or lead one.

Music

Singing and music are important elements of our '**collective worship**'. Music is chosen weekly by the collective worship coordinator to support and reflect the current theme of the week. Signing is accompanied either by recorded music on CD or streamed online. Songs are chosen carefully by selecting those with meaningful lyrics and have diverse cultural base so children can appreciate the global nature of Christianity. Music is played whilst pupils are entering and leaving assembly. Children take pride in leading collective worship and organise the music, greetings and prayer at the end of the assembly, as well as gathering pupils' evaluations.

Focus Table

The focus table is placed in front of the classroom. Artefacts related to the themes are displayed and shared with pupils.

Prayers

Prayer is included at the start and end of our collective worship. Children are invited to lead the prayers. Children are also encouraged to say the prayers before lunch and we share our school prayer at the end of the day. Pupils are given opportunity for reflection and prayers and we encourage them to explore their own beliefs and actions.

We also hold:

Experience Church

Church leaders lead the children through a part of worship and its significance – such as Communion

Religious Festivals

The children also hold and lead worship significant to the church calendar - All Saints day, Remembrance, Easter, Christmas, and Harvest Festivals. These services are supported by a church leader.

We also celebrate other religions celebrations such as inviting speakers from other religions into our school to deliver presentations and insights into their religion.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that all children are treated equally, regardless of academic ability, disability, age, race, gender, religious belief, home language, socio-economic background or sexual orientation. We are an inclusive school and offer together in worship to all children respecting individual needs. We strive to meet the needs of all pupils including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Planning and Implementation

The daily act of collective worship is planned on a termly basis to follow a theme which promotes spiritual, cultural and moral development. A new theme is introduced every term. We follow the four strands (Gather, Engaged, Respond and Send). We follow the roots and fruits scheme which is done on a two-year rolling cycle. These themes are linked to:

- Christian Values
- British Values
- Religious Festivals
- Special days
- Special events in the life of our school
- Topics being undertaken
- The Big Bible Story Understanding Christianity Frieze.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective worship is timetabled on a termly plan. All staff have a copy. Pupils interviews are carried out annually and responses are reviewed. Through staff meetings, parents voice and school council children's ideas are taken into consideration. Governors monitor collective worship and any actions feeds into the school learning improvement plan.

Evaluations are carried out by the head teacher and collective worship coordinator. Pupil evaluation are carried out termly. Feedback and suggestions are shared across the staff to inform and improve future planning and linked to the school improvement plan.

Appendix I

Organisation and Responsibility

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current timetable is as follows: All of our collective Worships have time for reflection, pupil contribution, prayer and singing.

Assembly times: 20 minutes each day.

Day	Time	Coverage	Led by
<i>Monday</i>	<i>8:50am</i>	<i>Whole School Assembly PHSE Christian values Picture News/ British Values</i>	<i>Head teacher SLT</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>8:50am</i>	<i>Class worship linked to weekly theme Bible stories read</i>	<i>Class Teachers/ Pupils</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>8:50am</i>	<i>Whole school collective worship linked to weekly theme Bible Stories Read</i>	<i>Headteacher collective worship coordinator Teachers</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>8:50am</i>	<i>Class praise and reflection.</i>	<i>Class Teachers</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>2:45pm</i>	<i>Whole School Celebration- Book of Destiny Held in Church. ALL relatives and friends of school invited.</i>	<i>Head Teacher SLT</i>

Appendix 2

Right to withdraw

All children and staff are invited to collective worship, however any parent/carer can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents/carers are not obliged to give reasons for this.

Staff may declare upon induction that they wish to withdraw from RE and Collective Worship, although when we recruit there is clear reference to Hose as a Church of England Primary School in our advert. Also questions at interview focus on our Christian distinctiveness. In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our collective worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. We conduct our as in a collective worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

Hose Church of England Primary School

Parental Request to withdraw a child from the daily act of Collective Worship.

Child's Name.....

Class.....

I formally request that my child does not attend collective worship

I understand that during the time when my child is withdrawn, he/she will be adequately supervised within school

I accept that my child will receive no formal instruction during this time, through private study will be encouraged. I undertake to provide my child with their own faith materials to study private whilst collective worship is in session.

Signed (Parent/Guardian) Date.....

Name