



**BOURNEBROOK
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed: September 2024

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The Aims of Collective Worship at Bournebrook C.E. Primary

We aim for our daily collective worship to be the “unique heartbeat of the school”.

We aim to foster a sense of fellowship by bringing pupils together to celebrate shared values of the school, the community and the wider world, while giving children the opportunity to develop spiritually.

Nature of Collective Worship

We aim to acknowledge and/or address the following principles when planning and leading our acts of Collective Worship at Bournebrook School.

- It provides a forum to celebrate faith and to promote the spiritual development of our children.
- It is within an environment that is encouraging of an inward response from individuals.
- Provides time to reflect on the school vision
- It provides time for personal reflection.
- It respects the values and beliefs of the whole community, in school and wider.
- The nature is invitational and inclusive.
- The worship creates a space which allows inspiration by the Holy Spirit.
- It may be an opportunity to explore school values / ethos and The Bournebrook Way.
- It seeks to develop the spirit of enquiry, a desire to follow truth and to search for meaning in life.
- It deepens children’s understanding of the Christian faith.
- It provides the opportunity for children to plan and lead the worship.

Collective Worship at Bournebrook is based on core beliefs that are common to all Christians:-

The Trinity

God is revealed through three different ways.

God the Father
God the Son – Jesus Christ
God the Holy Spirit

Belief in God as Creator

Worship should encourage a sense of awe and wonder and foster a respect for the world and its people. For example, care of creation, the Harvest, humanity, diversity, our environment.

Belief in Jesus

The life of Jesus, especially his birth, death and resurrection, lies at the heart of the Christian understanding of God and his love. Stories from the gospels provide opportunities for insight into spiritual and moral teaching.

Belief in the Holy Spirit

The power of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians is an outward expression of the inward actions of the Holy Spirit. In worship this may be approached through stories of people and organisations that have witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

The Bible

The Bible has a unique authority as God's word for Christians, and its use is central in Christian worship and life.

Belief in Salvation, Incarnation and the birth of the Church

Children will explore these themes through whole school experiential weeks.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The following strategies are ways in which we assess the outcomes of Collective Worship.

- The Headteacher, assisted by the Foundation Governors, monitors the balance and delivery of the acts of collective worship to ensure that the aims and objectives are being addressed.
- Children's reflections and responses to worship are recorded.
- Informal observations of children's attentiveness and level of interest during acts of collective worship.
- Observation of the children's general behaviour in and around school and their relationships with one another.

Equal Opportunities and SEN

As Collective Worship in our school is about affirming the value of every child in God's eyes, we are committed to ensuring that all children in school will have the opportunity to engage with Collective Worship, whatever their gender, religion, ethnicity, physical or academic ability.

Withdrawal of Pupils from Collective Worship

It is hoped that parents will accept the value of worship as an important part of school life. Parents do, however, have the right to remove their child from acts of Collective Worship. Any child not attending Collective Worship will be adequately supervised, but the Headteacher is not responsible for providing alternative worship arrangements for him/her.

Appendix 1

Implementation and Organisation

- Worship is led by the Headteacher, other staff, children and visitors.
- Staff join the school for worship as appropriate.
- Worship takes the pattern of gathering together with a greeting (usually The Lord is Here to which children respond His Spirit is With Us), a period in which there is sharing / engagement, time for reflection , a song of praise, prayer and the sending off of children (usually to reflect on the vision 'Let all that you do be done in love' to which the children respond Amen). **GERS – gather, engage, response, send.**
- Worship is a mix of key Bible teachings, use of the Vision to support teachings and a half termly theme taken from Roots and Fruits. Class worships allow classes to reflect on some of the main teachings in a smaller more intimate space. During the week

Monday

The Headteacher introduces the theme for the week and the whole school worship.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

The days are a mixture of Songs of Praise, children leading worship, stories or teachings. Class worships are also used for a small group reflection on the theme.

Friday

Celebration Assembly takes place. At this assembly achievements in school, birthdays and special happenings are recognised and celebrated. Parents and friends of the school are invited to our weekly Celebration Assembly on Friday afternoons.

Additional guidance

- Parents and friends are invited to acts of Worship which are held in church to commemorate special festivals or occasions, and these are Harvest, Christmas, Easter and end of term services.
- Collective Worship is co-ordinated by the Headteacher. The Headteacher monitors the range and variety of experiences being offered to the children and offers the opportunity for feedback from the children. This takes the form of a reflection sheet which is completed during the worship by children selected by the worship monitors.
- Worship may also be led by members of our Christian community and may involve visitors from charitable organisations.
- Periods of silence for reflection and the lighting of candles are an intrinsic part (as part of GERS).
- Worship may also take place in out of school times, as in our Church services and our links with Coventry Cathedral.
- Children are given the opportunity to learn Christian prayers.
- Opportunities for worship throughout the day include: prayer before lunch and our afternoon prayer at the end of the school day. This happens in all classes every day.
- Reflection areas are a permanent feature in the classrooms. These reflect the key Christian Values, are age appropriate and are designed to promote active participation rather than being just a display. Class reflection books are within these areas to allow children to reflect and take time to relook at previous class worships
- A range of resources are available for use during collective worship, i.e. liturgical clock, crosses, candles, etc. to stimulate reflection.