

# **Long Lane C.E. Primary School**



## **Collective Worship Policy**

Policy written – November 2019

To be reviewed – November 2022

# **Long Lane Church of England Primary School**

## **Collective Worship Policy**

### **Introduction**

At Long Lane Church of England Primary School, we are committed to valuing and nurturing each child as an individual who will achieve their best and develop an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. As a Church of England Primary School, we see our Collective Worship as a central part of school life.

### **Aims**

Our aim is that our worship contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children and staff.

### **Our policy for collective worship supports this by:**

- Recognising that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide opportunities for our pupils' and staff spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Providing a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which enables them to:
  - worship God
  - reflect on Christian values for schools, personal development, multi-faith festivals and curriculum aptitudes
  - develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
  - consider spiritual and moral issues
  - respond to the worship offered
  - respond to Christian language and symbolism and experience stillness and quiet
  - experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness or quiet reflection
  - begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship
- Ensuring the daily act of collective worship be distinctly Christian in content and follows the liturgical calendar
- Ensuring Collective Worship, whether in assembly or class time, will:
  - be inspiring and transformational
  - be led by the head teacher, staff, children, clergy and visitors.
  - develop the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school and focus on our school Christian values
  - include a range of creative opportunities e.g. music, silence, symbol, drama
  - heavily involve pupils through members of the school opening and closing worship and through pupils writing their own prayer
  - celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
  - provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future
  - will take place in the classrooms, outdoors or the church
  - respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship

### **Content of Daily worship**

As a Church of England school, the content of our worship is organised to:

- Follow a 2 year cycle to cover several Christian Values
- Cover all the major Christians festivals including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.
- Be rooted in Bible teaching
- Use the school prayer, Lord's prayer and other prayers written by pupils and led by the worship group

- Be presented using a variety of styles and to include music, story, drama, enthusiastic singing, reflection and reverence in prayer time.

## **Themes**

We have adopted several Christian values that form the basis of our worship and wider school life. Each value is looked at for a number of weeks and all worship is planned around this value, as well as being promoted throughout the school. Care is taken to ensure that understanding of each value is rooted in the Bible and the example of Jesus.

We have added in significant dates in the Christian year and days of particular importance such as Remembrance Day. We are also able to respond to local, national or world events (or a need from the children), that merit reflection and prayers.

A range of resources are available to all staff. Classes all have a special worship box that includes age appropriate Bibles and prayer books as well as a worship cloth, candle and other helpful resources and artefacts.

## **Special Services and Visitors**

We value our links with the clergy and congregation of Christ Church. We hold our Harvest, Christmas and Easter services in church. The vicar and the CHAT team regularly lead worship and always attend our services in the church. Where possible we also invite other members of the community in to lead worship. All visitors are welcome to attend our Collective worship.

## **Inclusion and withdrawal**

Collective worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have a legal right to withdraw their children from all or part of worship. Before making the decision to exercise that right parents / carers are encouraged to discuss the issues with the head teacher. Staff also have the right to withdraw on grounds of conscience but we hope that all staff will feel able to support the Christian ethos of the school by participating in collective worship.

## **Role of the RE lead**

The RE lead is responsible for supporting staff in their planning of worship where necessary. The RE lead is also responsible for organising and replenishing resources and for monitoring all aspects of worship within the school.

## **Evaluation of Worship**

The RE lead monitors whole school and class acts of worship throughout the year, alongside the head teacher and governors.

Here at Long Lane we encourage pupils to understand and promote our school Christian values. We promote Christian values through the celebrations such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest, and through prayer and reflection. Through reflection and prayer, we also work to take each child on their own faith journey.