

Croscombe Church of England (V.A.) Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Croscombe is a Church of England Primary School and this policy has been written with reference to its Christian foundation.

**CROSCOMBE
A
COMMUNITY
OF
LEARNERS
THROUGH CHRISTIAN CARE, COLLABORATION, CURIOSITY and CONTRIBUTION**

Introductory Paragraph

- This policy has been formally adopted by the governing body, in consultation with the Headteacher
- It is consistent with the aims of the school as expressed in our **ethos statement**
- It is consistent with the Christian Foundation of the school as expressed in the Trust Deed
- that it takes account of worship guidelines. 'Church School Leadership' – a handbook for headteachers of Church of England Schools. Framework for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools (SIAS).
- legislation related to Collective Worship (see DfES Circular 1/94)

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship God and explore how this might be done.
- To enable children to consider spiritual, moral, cultural and social issues
- To enable children to explore their beliefs
- To encourage participation and response
- To develop in children a sense of community
- To promote a common Christian ethos with shared values
- To promote positive attitudes and mutual support to contribute to the Spiritual well-being of the school community
- To allow for silence and reflection so that children have time think about their own responses
- To allow children to participate in and lead prayers and reflections

Collective Worship

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion the purpose of which is to give the children opportunity to establish a relationship with God. Collective worship involves members of the school community coming together and participating in a group worship activity. As a Voluntary Aided Church School, all collective worship is of a Christian character. We base our collective worship on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church.

Organisation of Collective Worship

- We hold a daily act of worship either as a whole school or in classes.



- Children understand that this is a special time for worship and reflection. Children and staff respect this quiet thoughtful time as an opportunity to listen and participate.
- Atmosphere is enhanced through the use of music, candles and images which all help focus attention, particularly in times of stillness and reflection.
- Worship is normally conducted by the headteacher or other members of staff. It is also led fortnightly by one of the local ordained or lay ministers and occasionally by representatives of other Christian denominations or organisations. Children are encouraged to take an active role in leading worship.
- A 2 year programme of key Christian values provides a focus which can be explored through collective worship. Themes for worship are taken from the traditions and scriptures of the Christian faith. We observe festivals and events of the Christian calendar. (See Appendix A)
- Celebration assemblies celebrate children's work and achievements across the curriculum. They also provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school.
- The attendance of parents/carers and the wider community is encouraged for some celebration assemblies and acts of worship, in order to promote home/school and the community working together in partnership. The attendance of Governors is always welcome.
- Other forms of collective worship can include daily prayers at the beginning of the day, before lunch and at the end of the day. These prayers can reflect the daily events, significant events in the children's lives, world wide current affairs and the church calendar. Each class has a collection of prayers displayed or available that can be used at these times. These prayer/ reflection times provide the children with the opportunity to link the teachings of the Christian faith with the social, moral, spiritual, and cultural aspects of their own lives.
- Through our partnership with the local church, our Collective Worship often takes place in our church whenever heating allows.

Right of withdrawal

- We expect all children to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from collective worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of worship. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- The Headteacher will keep a record of any children who are withdrawn from collective worship.
- Collective Worship will be delivered in accordance with our Equalities and Diversity policy.

Monitoring and review

- The Collective Worship Co-ordinator (currently the Headteacher):
 - Organises the Collective Worship timetable in consultation with the Senior Teacher
 - Arranges whole staff and individual staff training when needed
 - Oversees the monitoring and evaluation of Collective Worship
 - Ensures that the Collective Worship themes are followed and that there is a cohesive plan
- Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of a named school governor with support from the RE Coordinator. The named governor liaises with the headteacher before reporting to the governors.

This policy will be reviewed in light of any changes and developments.

Collective Worship Policy

Signed..... *Chair of Governors*

Signed..... *Headteacher*

Adopted: 2018
Date for renewal: 2020

APPENDIX A

Croscombe Church of England V.A. Primary School
 2 year planning for embedding **Key Christian Values** into school life

	Year A September 2017-18	Year B September 2018-19
Autumn 1	Creation (Harvest- Creation)	Trust (Harvest)
Autumn 2	Friendship (Christmas- Incarnation)	Service (Christmas)
Spring 1	Peace	Justice
Spring 2	Compassion (Easter- Salvation)	Forgiveness (Easter)
Summer 1	Thankfulness	Endurance
Summer 2	Community (Leavers)	Hope (Leavers)