

Kirtlington
C.E. School

Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed and approved by: FGB

Policy Reviewed: December 2023

Future Review: December 2024

Kirtlington Church of England Primary School

Collective Worship Policy 2023

Introduction

This Collective Worship policy is intrinsically linked with, and informed by other school policies, including the:

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- Online Safety and Acceptable Use Policy
- Equality Policy
- Restorative Practice and Behaviour Policy
- Special Educational Needs Policy

Our vision that 'We love our neighbour just as Jesus Christ loves us' (Luke 10:25) is based on the Biblical parable of the Good Samaritan which teaches us to love our neighbour as ourselves, to understand what this means and how it helps us to live our lives today. This includes the school as a safe place where children, adults and the wider community are valued and embrace the differences within one another. A place where children become successful, resilient learners and who, through an emphasis on well-being and spirituality, reach their full potential guided by the example of the Biblical parable of the Good Samaritan. A place where children become courageous advocates in society using kindness and forgiveness to do the right thing with understanding, tolerance and love.

Our core values are:

- **Love** which includes love of learning and of people and links with kindness, teamwork, how we treat each other, and relate to one another, including forgiveness and reconciliation.
- **Respect** which includes treating people fairly, with dignity and equality, ensuring our relationships with all people are respectful. It includes learning to assess honestly as well as learning to say sorry, to be forgiven and to learn from mistakes.
- **Perseverance** which includes resilience, determination, self-belief and learning to cope with difficult situations and grow through them. It connects with supporting good mental health as we learn through our mistakes.
- **Hope** includes aspiration and aiming high, as well as trying to be the best person we can be. It includes hope for our future, hope for others and hope for the world, believing that we can make a change.
- **Service** includes becoming good citizens who care about others and will do things without reward because it is the right thing to do. It includes thinking about others rather than always about ourselves and helps mental health both for those helping and those being helped.

We are an inclusive school, guided by our Christian values and committed to offering the best possible education for our children in partnership with parents, the Church and the local community. We celebrate religious, cultural and ethnic diversity and encourage dialogue and understanding. Collective worship is central to the life of our school, offering an opportunity to reflect on values and issues in the context of our Christian vision and ethos. It shapes our approach to others and what we do in school.

We believe acts of worship in school should be an affirmation, and a celebration of, our Christian ethos and values, with children of other faiths and philosophies or of no faith having their beliefs welcomed, shared and respected and to be:

- An opportunity for acknowledgement of the awe and wonder that our world provides us, and an occasion to encourage respect and care for God's creation.
- Our response to God in thanksgiving and humility
- An occasion to add significance and meaning to the daily lives of pupils
- An opportunity for stillness and personal reflection on the spiritual dimension of life

At Kirtlington CE Primary School, there are four whole school acts of worship each week and one class act of worship. Our end of week whole school act of worship is a celebration of all that has gone before in the week. Acts of worship are prepared and planned according to our shared values and using themes that will arouse interest and enable participation of all those present. Worship has a variety of leaders from both within the school and from St Mary the Virgin Church, with children given opportunities to contribute.

Our planned schedule enables the following to be included:

- Children are invited to participate practically in planned Worship
- Consideration of the importance of prayer, reflection and silence
- Contemplation around the relevance of ideas and beliefs to children's own lives
- Thought about the needs of others and the development of a sense of community
- Appreciation of the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them
- Opportunity to consider the meaning of the Christian faith
- Opportunity to re-affirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school
- Time to share and celebrate the various achievements of members of the community

As a Church School, our aspiration is that collective worship will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their background and beliefs. It is invitational, inclusive and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory. We follow the seasons of the church year and, within these, significant festivals and other special days are observed, including Harvest, Christmas and Easter. Other days such as Remembrance Day and the leavers' service also feature in collective worship.

As a Church of England School, collective worship should be in accordance with the trust deed or Diocesan guidelines and should be clearly Christian. Parents may withdraw children from acts of worship on religious grounds which do not have to be justified or explained.

December 2023

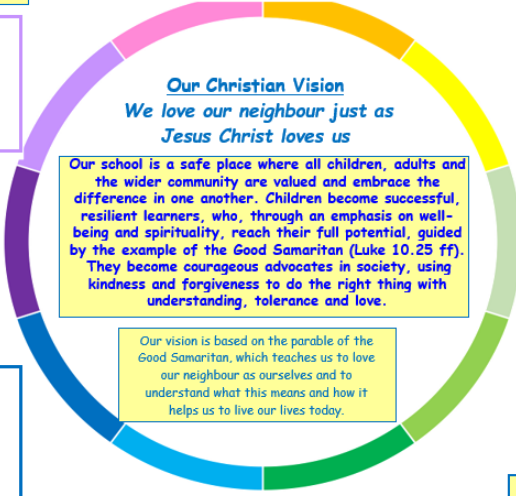
Kirtlington C.E. Primary School
 We are a church school and place great emphasis on the promotion of Christian values. These values are taught explicitly through whole school, key stage and class worship. The school's vision is underpinned by our Christian values.

VALUES
 Our linked, core school values of love, respect, perseverance, hope and service support the children in learning how to 'love thy neighbour'.

- LOVE
- RESPECT
- PERSEVERANCE
- HOPE
- SERVICE



Love includes friendship and the love of learning and of people. It links with kindness, teamwork and how we treat each other and relate to one another, including forgiveness and reconciliation.



Hope includes aspiration and aiming high, as well as trying to be the best person we can be. It includes hope for our future, hope for others, and hope for the world, believing that we can make a change.

Respect includes treating people fairly, with dignity and equality, ensuring our relationships with all people are respectful. It includes learning to assess honestly and to understand feelings and behaviours as well as learning to say sorry, to be forgiven and to learn from mistakes.

Service includes becoming good citizens who care about others and will do things without reward because it is the right thing to do. It includes thinking about others rather than always about ourselves and helps mental health both for those being helped and those helping.

Perseverance includes resilience, determination, self-belief, and learning to cope with difficult situations and grow through them. It connects with supporting good mental health as we learn from our mistakes.

We will provide a safe, positive, learning environment in which Christian values are central to all teaching.



We will provide high standards of teaching and learning for all pupils to achieve their full potential.

We will provide a rich, broad curriculum to engage all pupils and equip them with the skills, knowledge and understanding to become life-long learners.

Further Bible stories to support the school's Christian vision:
 The Lost Sheep (Lion Bible for Children p. 248; Luke 15)
 The Lost Coin (Lion Bible for Children p. 249; Luke 15)
 Zacchaeus the Tax Collector (Lion Bible for Children; Luke 19)
 Parable of the Mustard Seed (Mark 4:30-32)
 Jesus Washes his Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-20)
 The Big Party (Lion Storyteller Bible p. 88; Matthew 22 / Luke 14)
 Jesus and the Children (Lion Storyteller Bible p. 98; Matthew 19 / Mark 10 / Luke 18)
 Kind Dorcas (Lion Bible for Children p. 315; Acts 9)
 The Widow's Mite (Mark 12:41-44 / Luke 21:1-4)