

Northleaze Church of England Primary School

'Let your light shine.' (Matthew 5:16)



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This policy should be taken as part of the overall strategy of the school and implemented within the context of our vision, aims and values as a Church of England School.

Rationale:

At Northleaze School we believe the daily act of collective worship is an integral part of school life through which every child and adult can explore the school's vision and shared Christian values enabling them to grow into responsible, compassionate and fulfilled adults who actively and positively contribute to the society in which they live.

Collective worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life and should be a '*rich source of inspiration for the whole school, and a focus for all that is good and worthy of celebration*' (Bath and Wells Diocese), in accordance with the requirements of the Education Reform Act of 1988, the Trust Deed of the school and the recommendations of the Diocesan Board of Education. It should enrich the lives of all within our school community, reflecting the words of our vision, '*Let your light shine*'. (Matthew 5:16)

The experience, beliefs and values of each of our families is very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and children. At Northleaze Primary School, collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and enables people to encounter worship, and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship children will be offered:

- a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story;
- an understanding of worship through the invitation to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible;
- an experience of Christianity through sign, symbols and music;
- opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world;
- time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

Children will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to reflect on our chosen Christian values of responsibility, creativity, respect, compassion, resilience and friendship. Time will be given for celebration and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian and other Faith calendars.

Guiding Principles:

Collective Worship at Northleaze aims to:

- Be inclusive
- Hold a pivotal place in the life of the school
- Support pupils and adults in their spiritual growth
- Form a daily opportunity to explore the school's vision and Christian values
- Provide opportunities to explore and celebrate other religions and belief systems
- Support pupils in developing their understanding of the bible and the stories central to the Christian faith
- Provide an experience of worship that offers opportunities to observe and/or respond to the Christian belief in the presence, love and peace of God. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths, or none, to be present.
- Involve pupils through specific elements of the worship and through the school's Collective Worship team
- Ensure that materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to help children understand the work of Christians (locally, nationally and globally) and how this reflects the teachings of Jesus.

Organisation:

- Collective Worship will usually be structured as follows:
 1. **'gather'** (listen to quiet music, light a candle to signify that this is a special time dedicated to worship and say 'Grace, mercy and peace be with you. *And also with you.*');
 2. **'engage'** (tell a story, explore a theme etc., sing a hymn);
 3. **'respond'** (say a prayer/s);
 4. **'send'** (leader says 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *In the name of Christ, Amen.*')
- Collective Worship is daily and lasts for 15 - 20 minutes.
- There is always a quiet time for reflection or prayer within the worship, with prayers taken from collections in books, teachers' own resources or the children's work. The worship leader may also use the Lord's prayer which is displayed at the back of the school hall.
- Through the week, Collective Worship is organised as follows:
 - Monday – Whole School Collective Worship led by the Headteacher, member of Senior Leadership Team or member of Clergy
 - Tuesday – Whole School Singing with prayer/reflection at the end
 - Wednesday – Key Stage Worship led by a member of staff from each key stage
 - Thursday – Class Worship around our Christian value for the term (KS2) or bible 'spine' stories (KS1)
 - Friday – Whole School Celebration Assembly led by the Headteacher or member of Senior Leadership Team
- At significant times in the Christian calendar, we visit All Saints Church, Long Ashton to take part in whole school services, many of which parents are also invited to join. These include:
 - Beginners' Service for Reception pupils
 - Harvest
 - Christmas
 - Easter
 - Leavers' Service
- Individual classes will also visit All Saints Church as part of their RE curriculum.
- Each term, our Collective Worship team lead a Monday worship which is based around the Christian value for that term.

Planning, Preparation and Resources

- Each term a detailed plan for Collective Worship is compiled and shared with staff and clergy, linking the Christian calendar, school Christian values, our PSHE theme for the term, British values and significant national or world events. (Appendix 1 is an example of a plan.)
- A 'spine' of bible stories that are explored across KS1 is also in place and used in class collective worship each week. (Appendix 2.)
- Each class has a copy of the Lion Storyteller bible for use in Key Stage and class Collective Worship.
- Pupils write prayers at the beginning of each year which can be used in class Collective Worship each week.
- Guidelines for teachers leading class Collective Worship has been written by the RE lead and shared with staff. (Appendix 3.)

Equal Opportunities

The Education Reform Act 1988 makes provision for pupils to withdraw from Collective Worship and for suitable arrangements to be made for those pupils should that be the case. Parents wishing to request a withdrawal are asked to express this wish in writing to the Headteacher, school will then provide alternative provision for the duration of the Collective Worship.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed every three years.

Policy written: July 2023

Date of next review: July 2026

Appendix 1 and 2



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Collective Worship – Term 4 'Compassion'

Northleaze statement: 'We show compassion in everything that we say and do.' **Bible story:** 'The Good Samaritan' *Luke 10*

Bible verse: 'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as Christ forgave us.' *Ephesians 4:32.*

'His compassions never fail; they are new every morning.' *Lamentations 3:22*

Jigsaw theme: 'Healthy Me'

	Monday Collective Worship 10.10am	Tuesday Singing Assembly 10.10am	Key Stage Collective Worship	Class Collective Worship		Friday Celebration Assembly 9.10am
				KS1	KS2	
Week 1 20.02.23	Introduce Christian value Hymn – 'Sing Hosanna' VR	Shine Jesus Shine Hosanna! (Out of the Ark)	Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday (Lent begins this week)	Explore the story of 'The Good Samaritan'		Certificates, compassion leaf, HT's award, housepoints, birthdays, Doodle. School prayer VR
Week 2 27.02.23	Praise Him Shine Jesus Shine	Author visit workshops	Fairtrade Fortnight begins International Polar Bear Day	Explore a bible story*	Compassion	World Book Day assembly Whole School JS
Week 3 6.03.23	Healthy Me (Jigsaw) Hymn – 'Shine Jesus Shine' VR	Hosanna! (Out of the Ark) He is risen	Holi (8 th Mar) Hindu festival celebrating the eternal and divine love of Krishna.	Explore a bible story*	International Women's Day	Certificates, compassion leaf, HT's award, housepoints, birthdays, Doodle. School prayer SW/JS
Week 4 13.03.23	Bible focus (compassion) Hymn – Collective Worship Team	He is risen Hosanna! Shine Jesus Shine	Mothering Sunday (19 th Mar) (Or think about someone who cares for you)	Preparation for Easter service		Certificates, compassion leaf, HT's award, housepoints, birthdays, Doodle. School prayer VR
Week 5 20.03.23	Hymn – xxx VR	He is risen Praise Him Shine Jesus Shine	World Poetry Day	Preparation for Easter service		Certificates, compassion leaf, HT's award, housepoints, birthdays, Doodle. School prayer VR
Week 6 27.03.23	The Easter story Hymn – xxx Rev'd James	Easter Service at All Saints (AM)	Easter	Explore a bible story*	Compassion	Certificates, compassion leaf, HT's award, housepoints, birthdays, Doodle. School prayer VR

In every Collective Worship we 'gather' (listen to quiet music, light a candle and say 'Grace, mercy and peace be with you. And also with you. '); 'engage' (tell a story, explore a theme etc., sing a hymn), 'respond' (say a prayer/s) and 'send' (leader says 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ, Amen.')

*These bible stories come from the new KS1 bible 'spines' for each year group – see separate document attached.

Key Stage One Bible Stories

A spine of stories to develop a working knowledge of the bible

Term	Reception (x 6)	Year 1 (x 12)	Year 2 (x 12)
1 Responsibility	Noah's Ark <i>Genesis 6 – 8</i>	The Helpful Servant <i>2 Kings 5</i>	Down through the roof <i>Luke 5</i>
		The Unforgiving Servant <i>Matthew 18</i>	The Prodigal Son <i>Luke 15</i>
2 Creativity	The Angel visits Mary (the Nativity story) <i>Luke 1</i>	The Two Houses <i>Matthew 7</i>	The parable of the Sower <i>Luke 8</i>
		Jesus Calms the Storm <i>Mark 4</i>	Joseph & his Technicolour Dreamcoat <i>Genesis 17</i>
3 Respect	The Prodigal Son <i>Luke 15</i>	Jesus' Special Friends <i>Luke 5</i>	The 10 Commandments <i>Exodus 20</i>
		The man who comes back <i>Luke 17</i>	The Last Supper <i>Mark 14: 18 – 26</i>
4 Compassion	Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat <i>Genesis 17</i>	Samson and Delilah <i>Judges 16</i>	A Dreadful Day <i>Easter</i>
		Palm Sunday	A Happy Day <i>Easter</i>
5 Resilience	Feeding the 5000 <i>Mark 6: 32 - 44</i>	Daniel and the Lion's Den <i>Daniel 6</i>	David and Goliath <i>1 Samuel 17</i>
		Jonah and the Whale <i>Jonah 1</i>	Jesus is Baptised <i>Matthew 3</i>
6 Friendship	Jesus and the Children <i>Luke 18</i>	I Can See! <i>John 9</i>	Big bags of money <i>Matthew 25</i>
		The Big Party <i>Matthew 22</i>	Miracles (Jesus walked on water) <i>Mark 6</i>

Old Testament New Testament

The placing of these stories in each term is merely a suggestion. Please feel free to move them around as you see fit or as best fits with your curriculum and your planning. Each class will have a copy of the Lion Storyteller Bible from which the majority of these stories have been taken.

Class Assemblies at Northleaze

At church schools children are expected to partake in a daily form of collective worship. On Thursdays, this collective worship will take the form of a class assembly.

Class assemblies should be approximately 15 minutes long. You may wish to have assembly committees or leaders each term who set up the things needed for the class assembly. Because the class assembly takes place in your classroom, you can choose the time to do it.

Here are some suggested guidelines for what a class assembly might look like, while respecting teachers and class' rights to make their acts of worship personal for their classes:

Organisation	Class teachers, through input and discussion with the class, should think about how class assembly will be a special part of the week. This should involve lighting a candle as we would do in school collective worship. Classes may choose to sit in a special formation eg. in a circle
Opening	"Grace, mercy and peace be with you." "And also with you." <i>This will be opened by a selected pupil. This might be a classroom helper or assembly monitor.</i>
Exploration	In KS1, classes will explore a bible story. The bible may be explored over more than one session. This might involve reading a bible story together and discussing it, acting it out etc. Rev James will join for a staff meeting by the end of 2022 to conduct a session of Lectio Divina and Godly play, which are two techniques which help to bring the bible 'alive.' In KS2, classes may also explore relevant bible stories or further deepen their exploration of the term's Christian value. For any class, this part of the class assembly will be approximately 10 minutes.
Song	Northleaze children like to sing and it is nice to have music as part of a class assembly. There are many songs on Sing Up that the children are familiar with eg. He's got the whole world in his hands, This little light of mine.
Prayer	You could use a familiar prayer, such as the Lord's prayer or the school prayer. However, you could also use the prayers from your class prayer book. This would give purpose to these books and children would feel proud to read (or have their prayer read) in front of the class.
Reflection/ Spontaneous opportunity for prayer	When I was in Year 2, I would build in a quiet moment of reflection before assembly closed (like we do in actual assemblies) and invite anyone who wishes to share a prayer/ thought aloud to do so eg. I pray for the people of Ukraine, I am thinking about my dog Ralph who is having an operation.
Close	"Go in peace to love and serve the Lord" "Amen"