



KINTBURY ST. MARY'S
CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our caring ethos is based on our Christian values of hope, friendship and respect. These, together with our rich and diverse curriculum underpin our belief that everyone in our school community can develop a sense of self and understanding of their place in our world in order to achieve and flourish throughout life.

'Love thy neighbour as thyself' Luke 10:25-37

Collective Worship Policy

Approved by: The Governing Body

Date: 15.7.24

Next Review date: Summer 2026

Collective Worship at Kintbury St Mary's

Rationale

Collective Worship is a fundamental part of the life of Kintbury St Mary's School. It offers our children and staff the opportunity to reflect, consider their own beliefs and values and to come together to share a collective sense of community rooted in our Christian Values.

It provides opportunities for our children's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, through engaging, inspiring and transformational worship. It gives time to develop an increasing sense of self-awareness, consider moral issues within a Christian context and to deepen understanding of worship within a caring setting that is distinctively Christian.

The school recognises that there is a difference between Acts of Collective Worship and the assembly of children. An assembly is the coming together of members of the school that is for purposes other than Collective Worship.

On some occasions, assembly may precede or follow an Act of Collective Worship. When this happens, the transition from Assembly to Collective worship will be marked in a clear and appropriate way.

In our times of worship, we aim to include some or all of the following features:

-  praise and prayer
-  reflection
-  celebration
-  thanks
-  forgiveness
-  sharing

Specifically:

Collective worship (including class worship) will reflect the spiritual development of the school being wholly of a Christian character (See Key Christian Texts)

Respect and understanding for different beliefs and faiths is encouraged.

Collective Worship should be in language that pupils can understand.

Involvement of children in acts of Collective Worship will be encouraged.

Collective Worship may be in whole school or in different groupings

Collective Worship may be led by the Headteacher, or other members of staff, local Vicar (normally once a week), members of other Christian Churches and is non-denominational. Members of other faiths may be invited to contribute to acts of worship

Parents may be invited to join other acts of Collective Worship within the school such as COOL Assemblies and services outside the school such as at St Mary's Church

Collective Worship will be used to link in with other whole school themes

Services throughout the year such as Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas, Easter, end of Year 6 leavers, may be conducted outside the school at St Mary's Church

When collective worship is conducted outside the school, the format of the service will be determined by the school/collective worship co-ordinator in consultation with the Vicar and relevant class teachers.

The Collective Worship Coordinator, together with the Headteacher is responsible for reviewing both the themes and the resources and the records of these are available in school. All members of staff are expected to attend collective worship as regularly as possible.

Collective Worship takes place daily for all children. Parents have the right to withdraw their children if they so wish. Children who are withdrawn will be supervised on the premises by a member of staff.

In addition, it is our vision that Collective Worship will also provide opportunities to contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child. Such opportunities may include:

- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- Foster a sense of awe and wonder
- Celebrate all that is of value in life
- Express their concerns, hopes and joy, providing a safe space so they can articulate their thoughts and feelings
- Have an opportunity to build a relationship with God
- Give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- Appreciate the values and beliefs that people live by, acknowledging and becoming more aware of the needs of others

Key Christian Texts

Within a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School we should expect that our children and staff become familiar with some of the great statements of Christian belief and worship especially the life and teachings of Jesus Christ including:

-  The Lord's Prayer
-  The Ten Commandments
-  Some traditional hymns as well as more recent examples
-  The Church Calendar, Festivals, Saints Days

Related Policies

- Spirituality policy
 - Mission Statement
 - School Ethos - Instrument of Government
 - School Development Plan
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