



Collective Worship Policy

Empathy, Respect, Forgiveness and Responsibility

Committee Responsible:	Curriculum Committee
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Mission Statement

At The King's CE School

we believe that everyone is unique and created in God's image.

We enable all to achieve their God-given potential;

to grow, learn and aspire;

to transform their lives and the lives of others

and to journey in faith without limits

within a unified, respectful and harmonious community.

'Aspire, Believe and Achieve Together'

Aspire to be the best that we can be... Believe that anything is possible... Achieve beyond what we ever imagined...

- ◆ Learn and worship in the name of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and value, respect and celebrate all faiths and cultures.
- ◆ Believe in themselves and become successful adult – developing their vision, faith, ambition and aspirations.
- ◆ Develop a resilience and inner strength to overcome life challenges.
- ◆ Embrace life-enriching experiences and make well-informed lifestyle choices that promote health and wellbeing.
- ◆ Develop thinking skills and transferrable skills, working in partnership to become life-long learners.

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1. Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship at The King's Church of England school is the foundation of our ethos as a Church of England school, and should underpin an Anglican education which is deeply Christian, and serves the common good. Collective worship is rooted in the principles of wisdom, hope, community and dignity. Collective worship is one way the school seeks to fulfil its vision:

"At the King's CE School we believe that everyone is unique and created in God's image. We enable all to achieve their God-given potential; to grow, learn and aspire; to transform their lives and the lives of others and to journey in faith beyond excellence within a unified, respectful and harmonious community."

Biblical teaching drives our school vision and underpins our school values. 2 Corinthians 13:11b states:

"Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you."

This verse, although intended for a Church community, summarises our belief that worship should provide a space for joy, learning and an opportunity for the whole school community to gather together in harmony. This is also reinforced by a verse from Psalm 133 which states, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity." Although students belong to a range of faiths and to none, we believe that all can come together in acts of Collective Worship. We see everyone as uniquely created by God and strive to be inclusive of all.

We have a full programme of Collective Worship which forms the heart of our community life at school. Our worship is rooted in the Christian tradition of the Church of England, but we work hard to ensure that our worship is inclusive and welcoming to everyone in our school community, both Christian and non-Christian.

The different acts of worship within The King's School aim to:

- Develop the spirituality of staff, pupils and students corporately and as individuals
- Foster the school values of empathy, respect, responsibility and forgiveness (*see Values Policy*)
- Enable pupils and students to 'Aspire, Believe and Achieve Together'
- Create an atmosphere of reflection, prayer and meditation through times of silence
- Allow pupils and students to develop a sense of curiosity and wonder, and engage in thought-provoking discussion
- Develop a deeper understanding of the Christian Faith and the doctrine of the Holy Trinity
- Celebrate Christian festivals, as well as those festivals celebrated by members of the school community who belong to other faiths
- Enable pupils and students to reflect on their place within the school community, wider society and the world
- Encourage reflection upon Biblical themes and teachings
- Inspire pupils and students to lead worship themselves
- Foster a sense of inclusivity within the school's diverse religious community
- Challenge student perception of world events, moral issues and invoke a response

2. Statutory Requirements

The requirement for a daily act of collective worship, broadly Christian in nature, for all students in all maintained schools was set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Further guidance is found in DFE 'Collective Worship in Schools' 1994.

As a Church of England school, our worship is rooted in the inclusive Anglican tradition and is guided by recommendations from the National Society, the Church of England and the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS).

As an inclusive Christian school, we welcome students of all faiths and no faith and we are delighted that almost all our students, including most Muslim students, are able to attend church services and participate in the service as much as they feel able to. However, parents and carers have the right to withdraw pupils and students from all or part of collective worship for religious reasons, and we respect their right to do so. Parents and carers wishing to withdraw a student from Collective Worship are asked to do so in writing to the Principal.

At The King's, as with any Voluntary Aided School, responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the Principal. The planning, leadership and provision are delegated to the Ethos Co-ordinator and Chaplain with the support of the Ethos Committee and is overseen by a member of the SLT as delegated by the Principal. An annual report on the provision will be given to the governing body for monitoring purposes.

3. Planning and Content of Collective Worship

The Worship Calendar is shared at the start of each academic year. It contains the Worship Season, Bible reading and coordinating theme for each week. This Programme is followed for Weekly House and Form Worship, as well as the staff 'Thought for the Day' which is shared in staff briefing on Monday and Thursday mornings. This theme will also be drawn upon in times of reflection at the start of additional staff meetings or training.

3.1. School Prayer

Collective Worship at The King's Church of England School takes place daily with the school prayer. Students read the prayer within their form groups which allows an opportunity for quiet reflection at the beginning of each day.

3.2. House Worship

On either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday mornings, students gather in their houses (Lichfield, Canterbury and York) to take part in House Worship. This is led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, an outside visitor, a form group or another member of staff. House worship follows the themes set out in the Worship calendar for the academic year which follows the Anglican calendar.

3.3. Form Worship

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, students will participate in Form Worship. The theme and Bible reading of the week is shared in both acts of worship to allow for consistency and a deeper understanding of the significance of the chosen passage. In Form Worship, students have an opportunity to lead worship themselves; engage in discussion; offer prayers and take time to reflect on the theme of the week.

3.4 Christ the King Day

Once a year, The King's School celebrates Christ the King Day and gathers collectively to worship and learn about what it means to be part of a Church school. Each year group follows a different theme. For example,

year seven students visit different Churches in Wolverhampton town centre to explore divergent Christian worship practices.

3.4. Church Services

At Christmas and Easter, the whole school community attends Worship at St. Michael's and All Angels Church, Tettenhall. Governors and parents are also invited to attend.

3.5 Eucharist

At The King's we celebrate the diversity of Christian denominations from which our pupils and students come and aim to make the Eucharist an inclusive act of worship according to Anglican tradition. Students and staff also take part in Eucharist services within school throughout the academic year. Clergy from local Churches support with this. Students learn about the Eucharist in RE lessons in Key Stage 3. Throughout the academic year, there is a Eucharist for each year group. Those who normally receive Holy Communion in their own church are welcome to receive Holy Communion at the school Eucharist. All pupils and students are encouraged to receive a blessing.

3.6 Memorial and Special services

There are other times during the school year when the school responds to significant events in the lives of students and national events with additional acts of worship. For instance, in acts of remembrance.

4. Monitoring Collective Worship

Members of staff, visitors and students leading worship are expected to follow the school's Worship Protocols. For instance, lighting the candle at the start of worship; the response to the school verse; using the assigned Bible reading for the week; including the Lord's Prayer etc. CPD on Worship is delivered to all staff at the beginning of the academic year and to new members of staff as part of their induction to the school.

Collective Worship is monitored and evaluated by the Senior Leadership Team, Ethos Co-ordinator and School Chaplain through calendared 'Worship Walks' and Pupil Voice surveys.

5. Coronavirus

All acts of worship will continue remotely and via TEAMS if the school is in lockdown or in local restrictions including all the events listed in section 3.

6. References

- 1988 Education Reform Act and reiterated in the 1996 Education Act. (Section 385)
- Church of England Vision for Education – Deeply Christian serving the Common Good
- SIAMS Evaluation Schedule 2018.