



Collective Worship Policy

September 2021

Philosophy

Worship is an important part of the school week as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a community. It is attended by all students (F2 to Y6), staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

At Mexborough St John the Baptist C of E Primary school we recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to provide opportunities for our students Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- As Christian worship in a Church of England school we think about the mystery of God and give praise and honour to God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- To provide an opportunity for children to consider religion and their own response
- To develop an understanding and use of liturgy
- Support the Social and Emotional development of our pupils through making use of the PHSE scheme of work
- Provide members of the school community with the opportunity experience stillness and quiet and reach out to God
- To develop in children a sense of community and to encourage participation and response
- To promote a common ethos and to reinforce positive attitudes within school

The place of collective worship in the life of our school

Our collective worship takes into account the religious and education needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in our local church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions
- Those from other faith backgrounds
- Those of no faith

It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. Although we encourage all children to participate in collective worship, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused and the school will make alternative arrangements.

Organisation

Day	Person Leading and Focus	Location
Monday	Headteacher – School values and Christian calendar	Hall (Separate KS1 and KS2)
Tuesday	Senior leaders – School values and Christian calendar	
Wednesday	Class teachers – Hymn	
Thursday	Deputy head – cultural development and awareness (Fr Edward / church community alternate weeks)	
Friday	Headteacher – Celebration	

Planning, content and delivery of collective worship

Collective worship is planned:

- Following a structure with reference to the church's seasons, significant dates, school values and the curriculum
- Involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to school aims and policies
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- All leadership and teaching staff are involved in leading Collective Worship
- Collective Worship is a daily event in school
- All classes are involved in leading a class assembly
- All children during their time in school have the opportunity to be involved in leading assemblies to celebrate the church's main liturgical festivals of Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.
- Collective worship takes place at the local parish church each term led by the vicar. Due to the location of the local parish church the vicar and other parishioners lead collective worship in school at least once a month. This helps to strengthen the school's relationship with both the church and the local community.
- Termly Mass lead in school by the vicar.
- Opportunities for annual confirmation and baptism led by the vicar / bishop.

Monitoring and evaluation of collective worship

The school's provision of worship is monitored and regularly evaluated by SLT to consider whether it is fulfilling the above requirements and meeting the needs of the pupils in an engaging and stimulating way.

The worship council provides feedback on school collective worship each half term. This helps Senior Leaders to shape collective worship and ensures pupil involvement.