



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY Revised September 2023

“A gathering of children and staff to explore or respond to deeply held beliefs and values through a range of activities”

Introduction - The Place of Collective Worship

At St George's, Collective Worship lies at the heart of every school day and allows everyone within the school to come together as one community. Worship is based upon a foundation that shows an awareness of God's love for all within the school community. Our Collective Worship seeks to focus within the context of Christian belief, an understanding of the significance of faith and values.

The Aim of Collective Worship

The aim of the Governors, clergy of the Clun Valley Benefice and beyond and the staff of St George's CE School, in partnership with the Diocese of Hereford, is to enable all pupils to develop as honest and caring individuals within the Christian context of the school community. Through Collective Worship a sense of belonging is created which provides a foundation to develop core Christian values. We affirm and celebrate ideals and values that we hold to be of central importance to us as a worshipping community. At St George's, we aim to ensure that Collective Worship:

- has a pivotal place in the life of the school
- supports pupils and staff in their spiritual growth
- reflects on the school's vision, values and ethos
- develops a community spirit, a common vision and shared values
- considers spiritual and moral issues
- supports pupils and staff to respond to the worship offered
- supports pupils and staff to respond to Christian language and symbolism
- provides experiences of prayer, reflection, stillness and meditation
- explores praise and opportunities to affirm the Christian faith
- reflects upon Christian teaching, biblical material and Christian festivals in a way that relates to experiences and to living together in a community
- recognises the beliefs and cultures of others, represented in the school and wider community
- considers the needs of others and foster charitable works
- celebrates special times in the Christian calendar
- celebrates and give thanks for the achievements within school and the local and international community
- provides opportunities to share with others joy and challenges

Our Vision “Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water” John 7:38

St George's is clear about its mission. We are here to bring learning to life for every member of our school community, just as water brings life to the world. We are here to prepare children for their journey through life as responsible respectful citizens of the future who are **ambitious, courageous and kind**. We are a school that is proud to be creative, caring, nurturing and challenging in equal measure. We aim to develop life-long learners who thrive in our care and bring life to the future of our world.

Our Christian Values

Our core values are kindness, courage and ambition. Like the flow of water in a river, they flow through our vision and in everything we do for our children to be the life giving future of our world. We learn about our values during collective worship, class time, playtime and with our friends, teachers and families.

Kindness - Water of Life

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

Ephesians 4:32

- Be kind to the world that God gave us.
- Be kind to yourself, look after your own physical and mental health.
- Be kind to each other.

Courage - The Strength of Water

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

- Through God we have courage.
- Courage to stand up for what is right even when others around us may not.
- Courage in our own self-belief.
- Courage to take risks and accept a challenge.

Ambition - The Power of Water

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you"

Matthew 6:33

- Water is powerful it can overcome any obstacle. We have power through God to achieve our own goals and any obstacles that life sets in our way.
- We celebrate the gifts that God has given us and develop these talents to achieve our vocational, technical and academic ambitions.

Statutory Requirements

Collective Worship at St George's CE School is distinctly Christian and reflects Anglican traditions. As a Church of England Aided School, Collective Worship follows the legal requirements, detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document

- Collective Worship is conducted in accordance with the provision of the Trust Deeds of the school and should be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England
- The trustees/governing body should ensure that all pupils each day engage meaningfully in a real act of Christian worship which is in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church

- Arrangements for Collective Worship are the responsibility of the trustees/governing body, after consulting with the Head teacher
- All acts of worship must be Christian in character
- All pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdraw), must on each school day take part in an act of collective worship

Right of Withdrawal

At St George's CE School, we aim to make Collective Worship relevant and meaningful to all within the school community; for those who have a faith background and those who have none. Worship is regarded as a special time which wholly reflects upon our ethos as a Church School. It is an inclusive opportunity but we respect the right of parents/guardians to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the head teacher to discuss concerns. After an initial discussion with the head teacher, withdrawal can then be confirmed in writing. Alternative worship will not be provided but pupils will be supervised during this time.

Organisation and planning of Collective Worship

The staff and Governors of St George's place Collective Worship at the centre of the school's daily life. It is a time when we come together to share Christian values and experiences of our everyday lives. A time to develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of our pupils. Collective Worship is organised by the whole school and is led by different members of the teaching staff, visiting church ministers/groups, members of local faith communities and also pupils. This enables us to provide an exciting and varied approach towards our Collective Worship and greatly enhances the school's Christian character.

Collective Worship is based on the Vision statement, Christian values and the liturgical calendar. Each term, we explore different values during Collective Worship, in lessons and during everyday school life. This enables all children in school develop a better understanding of each value, its meaning and how it will impact their lives.

Autumn A	Spring A	Summer A
Kindness-Water of life Compassion Harvest Advent Christmas	Courage-The strength of water Trust Epiphany Lent Easter	Ambition-The power of water Hope Pentecost Trinity

Autumn B	Spring B	Summer B
Kindness-Water of life Humility Harvest Advent Christmas	Courage-The strength of water Truthfulness Epiphany Lent Easter	Ambition-The power of water Thankfulness Pentecost Trinity

We meet daily for *Collective Worship*, either as a whole school, class or community. Our worship consists of 4 stages:

- *Gathering*-we welcome the community (with music, liturgy, lighting a candle)
- *Engaging*-with something new (a Bible reading, activity to engage with the Christian message)
- *Responding*-discuss, share, reflect, pray, sing
- *Sending out*-share (reflecting upon the message of the worship, taking the learning into life)
Final liturgy, prayer, music, blow out candle.

We value our links with the congregation of St George's Church and hold Harvest, Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter and Leavers services in the church. There is currently no vicar but local church ministers and Christian groups are regularly invited to lead our *Collective Worship*.

Pattern of Collective Worship

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10.30-10.45	10.30-10.45	10.30-10.45	10.30-10.45	2.30-3
School hall or outside	School hall or outside	School hall or outside	School hall or outside	School hall
Christian Values or Liturgical year	Christian Values or Liturgical year	Children's Assembly	Christian Values or Liturgical year	Celebration
<i>Gathering, engaging, responding, sending out</i>	<i>Gathering, engaging, responding, sending out</i>	Music, prayer, reflection led by children	<i>Gathering, engaging, responding, sending out</i>	Sharing Christian Values Prayer led by children
Led by staff	Led by staff	Led by children	Led by staff	Led by Head teacher
Attended by: pupils & staff	Attended by: pupils & staff	Attended by: pupils, staff,	Attended by: pupils & staff	Attended by: pupils, staff, parents & governors

Reflection and evaluation

Collective Worship will be monitored by the head teacher, RE subject leader and the Governing body. Monitoring and evaluation strategies are also used by the staff to assess outcomes for the Collective Worship that takes place at St George's CE School. The main strategies are:

- Verbal or written feedback from pupils, staff, parents, visitors.
- Observation of pupils' interest, reactions and engagement during Collective Worship.
- The level of pupils' behaviour towards each other, to all adults in the school and within the school community.
- Observations by the Foundation Governors
- Observations of the quality of Worship by external visitors

Policy prepared by	K Lampitt
Adopted by Governing Body on	Oct 2021
Previously reviews	Sept 2022 Sept 2023
Next Review date	Sept 2024