



Dream, Believe, Achieve

"All things are possible." Mark 9:23

Collective Worship Policy

School Address	Bank Road Pilning South Gloucestershire BS35 4JG
School Contact Number	01454 631137

Legal requirements

The Instrument of Government for St. Peter's Primary Anglican Methodist Primary School states that, "The school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Ecumenical Church at Parish and Diocesan level".

In accordance with legal requirements (School Standards and Framework Act 1998) an act of Collective Worship, taking account of age, aptitudes and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents. The school expects that withdrawal will only be made following discussions with the Headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. Children withdrawn from Collective Worship will be provided with a safe alternative.

Rationale

At St Peter's we aim to provide collective worship which is consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England. This is in accordance with the Trust Deeds, the School Vision Statement, SMSC Policy and Caring Curriculum Policy. Collective Worship is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents. There is a legal right of parents to withdraw their children from acts of worship providing they have notified the Headteacher. In such cases children would be supervised elsewhere in the school.

Purpose

- To provide time and opportunity for reflection on personal beliefs and wider issues of life.
- To provide time and opportunity for thanksgiving and sharing and to celebrate achievement in the school and community.
- To help children explore feelings and shared human experiences such as joy, sadness, thankfulness and need.
- To help children recognise and value each individual's worth as well as developing respect for others and their beliefs. Central to this is the development of sensitivity as well as tolerance and understanding towards others.
- To provide a vehicle to explore the spiritual and moral values of the school community and foster new insights about life and empathy for others.
- To model a community that celebrates each unique individual member made in the image of God.
- To help children develop a knowledge and understanding of Christianity, its language and symbolism, its impact on people's lives and its importance on society and cultural heritage.
- To stimulate children's curiosity through questioning, meaning and to consider religious and non-religious response to these.
- To help pupils begin the children's journey to understand the nature and purpose of worship and develop a worshipful attitude, characterised by feelings such as awe, wonder, appreciation, respect and reverence.

Guidelines

- In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our Collective Worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our Collective Worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.
- Collective worship is presented in a variety of ways to create suitable atmospheres for various themes. This should include the incorporation of visitors, stories, music, artefacts, photographs/posters, books and any other appropriate visual aids. It provides opportunity to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of Christian worship.
- Collective worship is held both in the school hall, in individual classrooms and at St Peter's Church. Each week, worship takes place in the following way:
 - a. Monday – Whole school worship lead by the Executive Headteacher or Head of School.
 - b. Tuesday – Class Worship lead by class teacher.
 - c. Wednesday – Whole school singing lead by Paul Truan or John-Mark Molyneux (Emmaus Church)
 - d. Thursday – Whole school worship lead by Clergy/Minister where all staff are encouraged to attend (pm) or Executive Headteacher/Head of School leads (am)
 - e. Friday – Celebration Service lead by Executive Headteacher or Head of School.

Collective Worship is conducted in a dignified and respectful way.

- There is a variety of styles and leadership through the week with whole school Collective Worship being led by the Headteacher, Head of School, Pupil Worship Committee (School Synod), the local minister and other visitors from the community. The range of visitors recognises the commitment to ecumenism, encompassing gender, race, age and opinion.

- Collective worship observes the cycle of the Christian Festivals and follows the pattern of the Anglican Year. A Cross and sometimes candles are used for Collective worship. The schools' Christian prayer, the Lord's Prayer and liturgy are used regularly.
- Collective worship follows the 'Values for Life' on a termly basis. 'Values for Life' is written by the diocese. The values include forgiveness, compassion, hope, truthfulness, humility and justice. A record is kept in the Collective Worship File on the J drive and class worship in 'Pause for Thought' books in class.
- Class prayers are said at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions.
- Each week the whole school celebrates the various achievements of school members when teachers nominate children in their class to receive an achievement certificate called 'Star of the Week'. A picture of the children is taken and displayed on a 'Star of the Week Board' and shared in the fortnightly newsletter.
- The school uses the Church building both for Collective worship at different times of the year and also for Religious Education.
- The R.E. Leader takes on the role of Collective Worship Leader, operating a budget for resources. Staff training takes the form of staff meetings and INSET.
- Parents have had the right to withdraw their children from collective worship since the 1944 Education Act and no recent legislation has affected this right. Parents are requested to speak to the Headteacher regarding any withdrawal.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Evaluation and Monitoring of Collective Worship will be carried out in a variety of ways:

- The RE Lead and Foundation Governors perform pupil conferences and staff conferences to gather information about collective worship.
- Children are nominated weekly to receive an 'Above and Beyond' award that demonstrates how the children are showing the Christian values of the school.
- Discussion at staff meetings, Governor's meetings and consultation with the school's Foundation Governors, including learning walks, class visits and observations.

This policy will be reviewed by the Foundation Governors in line with the overall policy timetable which is every 2 years.

Policy Agreed

By the Inclusion, Achievement, Teaching & Curriculum Committee on 27 November 2025

APPENDIX 1

School Prayer and Liturgy



Dream, Believe, Achieve

"All things are possible." Mark 9:23

God,

We give you our school.

We give you the children who play and learn here.

We give you the adults who teach and care for all here.

We pray our school is a place to dream, believe and achieve.

We ask all this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our School Liturgy at the beginning of Worship.

The leader of the service will say...



Peace be with you.

The congregation will reply...

And also with you!



Our School Liturgy at the end of Worship.

The leader of the service will say...

Give thanks to the Lord!

The congregation will reply...

For he is good!

