

Collective Worship Policy



At Oundle CE Primary we use the following mission statement: 'To Be the Best You Can be'. This reminds us of the expectations we all have of ourselves as people, learners and citizens of the future.

Our Christian vision is:

'Let your light shine before others; that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.' Matthew 5:16

This reminds us that when 'shining' and being 'the best we can be' we should be aware that we are setting an example to others and that we should 'shine' for ourselves

Our understanding of Collective Worship and aims for Collective Worship

At Oundle C of E Primary School, we believe that worship is a time when the whole school come together as one 'team' to think and reflect on a shared theme or idea.

In addition to the aims already stated, at Oundle CE Primary, Collective Worship has an important role to help children and staff gain a sense of belonging and sharing of Christian values and ideas that inform the ways we behave towards others, our special world and think about ourselves. We explore our Christian vision through Collective Worship by stating its meaning and focus every day. See *Appendix 2* for the opening and closing used for all Collective Worship.

Singing is a strong element of our worship. Songs are carefully chosen to link with our themes or support the Christian calendar. Our expectations in singing are high and participated fully by all children and staff. Our songs are enjoyed by our pupils due to the nature of their tunes, lyrics and actions. At Oundle CE Primary we see ourselves as one choir. Our singing offers pupils to praise through song.

We provide an opportunity for pupils and staff to experience worship in a contemporary Christian style, which is consistent with the traditional beliefs and practices of the Church of England.

Practicalities of Organisation

We conduct daily collective worship in a dignified and respectful way. We encourage pupils to think of worship as a time when the school community comes together for a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect them to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teaching. We invite them to participate in prayer and songs. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and a cross and three candles (representing the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit) that act as a focal point for the attention of the pupils.

The Principal and other members of staff conduct collective worship but on Tuesdays, a member of St Peter's Church clergy leads us in worship. This brings greater variety to

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our worship times and strengthens links between the Academy and the local church. Parents / carers are invited to Friday collective worship and other special services, e.g. at Christmas, Easter and the end of the academic year. This promotes the community spirit of the Academy. We welcome members of the School Forum to attend our collective worship at any time.

Worship opportunities are also offered to staff, children and their families as we attend services. These include:

- Welcome to our School and Church – a service for Foundation Stage pupils and new parents including Bible giving
- Harvest
- Christingle
- Nativity
- Carol Service
- Mothering Sunday
- Easter
- Year 6 Leavers Service

Content

The content of our Collective Worship aims to be contextual and relatable to all children of all ages in the school. We aim to be inclusive of all needs and will support children with their individual needs to make worship as accessible as possible. This is achieved through the variety of methods used in its delivery and questions asked.

The themes for our Collective Worship are outlined in Appendix 1. Some are Christian values and others are biblically themed.

Pupil groups will lead Collective Worship on occasions to share the work they are doing within school. For example, the School Council, Sports Crew and Eco Council.

In the spring term, year groups share their learning with the school and invited parents. This is an opportunity for the children to develop their confidence and presentation skills.

We also hold collective worship that reflects the achievements and learning of the pupils. We encourage the pupils to participate in collective worship by showing their work to others and sharing issues that they have discussed in their classes. Collective worship offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward pupils for their achievements both in and out of the Academy. Children can be inspired by the hobbies and achievements of others. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the Academy, which is that all pupils are valued, and all achievements recognised.

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Resources

Collective Worship uses many different resources and devices. Collective Worship uses story, Bible stories, drama, thinking/reflection, quizzes, pictures, film, props, costumes, visitors and more to support all pupils with their learning and thinking. Pupil contributions to discussion are encouraged whether with a talking partner or with the whole school. We reflect on our learning and sometimes use tasks to do back in class to help us navigate an idea at an age-appropriate level.

Monitoring of Collective Worship

School Forum members will periodically join the school for Collective Worship. Their monitoring is shared with the School Forum either in written or verbal form. It is an aim that there are occasions when a School Forum member will support with the giving out of certificates and awards to be part of the celebrations and successes of the individuals and school.

Our DSC from the Diocese will visit the school every term and may include an observation of our Collective Worship, offering feedback and advice as needed.

Appendix 1

Our school's three core values are: Joy, Kindness and Resilience.

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Belonging	Hope & Light	Following Jesus	Forgiveness & New Life	Growing Together	Making a Difference

Appendix 2

Opening



Ambassadors: Welcome to our Collective Worship.
We light our candles to remind us of...

Everyone: The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.

Ambassadors: We have come together to think about...

Everyone: Help us to Learn, Reflect and Respond.

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Closing

Oundle CE School Closing

Ambassadors:

As we go out into our day, we take
God's light with us.

Everyone:

We shine God's light to others by
being 'the best we can be.'

