

Hook-with-Warsash Church of England Academy Collective Worship Policy



Signed:

Chair of Governors _____

Headteacher _____

Reviewed: October 2022

Date to be Reviewed: October 2023

Forging Links Committee

“Let Your Light Shine”

To provide an inspirational environment based on Christian values where individuals can excel and flourish academically, socially and emotionally, preparing them for life’s journey.

HOOK-WITH-WARSASH C of E ACADEMY

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Rationale:

- Collective Worship contributes to the social, moral, spiritual, cultural and religious development of pupils, by giving them positive help in their exploration of meaning, purpose and value.
- Collective Worship guides children towards a spiritual and moral life based on Christian values; particularly the school values of love and trust.
- Collective Worship in the Academy is open to all members of the Academy community. Daily worship plays an integral and vital part of the children's day at school, giving the opportunity to join together with staff, parents and other adults in a collective act of reflection and worship.

Purposes:

Within the broad spectrum of Collective Worship, it is envisaged that the Academy community will be given the opportunity to:

- Worship God.
- Enable spiritual awareness and encourage curiosity.
- Develop awareness and respect for other beliefs, traditions, cultures and patterns of worship.
- Explore and Celebrate the Academy's Values, especially the Christian ones of Love and Trust.
- Celebrate children's worth and uniqueness.
- Pause for reflection and stillness in the midst of the pressures of the school day.
- Provide a rhythm to the life of the Academy by marking and celebrating special occasions and achievement.
- Encourage the development of a sense of community, of belonging and sharing.
- Offer opportunities for prayer.

As a Church School we must fulfil two legal requirements for collective worship:

- Provide a daily Act of Worship for all pupils.
- Ensure collective worship is provided in accordance with the school's Trust Deed. The legal requirement for Church Schools ensures that every child in the school is entitled to an opportunity for daily worship.
- The 1998 Education Act gives parents the legal right to withdraw their children from collective worship. The parental right to request that a child be wholly or partly excused from attending Acts of Worship will be respected. Parents who wish to exercise this right should discuss this with the Headteacher. After discussion, if withdrawal is required, any child withdrawn from an Act of Worship will be supervised by a member of staff in another part of the school.

Guidelines to achieve the above purposes.

Worship in our school will:

- Be distinctively Christian whilst also being invitational, inclusive and inspirational.
- Use and promote the clearly identified core Christian values of our school.

- Make use of the seasons and festivals of the Christian year.
- Develop understanding of Anglican traditions and the practice of the local parish church.
- Be central to the life of our school community.
- Reflect on human existence.
- Explore further how other Christian values link to the Academy's own core Christian values.
- Underpin Fundamental British Values.
- Develop a sense of reverence by creating an atmosphere of calmness prior to the start of Collective Worship e.g. playing appropriate music and giving the children a 'pause for thought', for entering and leaving the hall.
- Begin by lighting the candle and collectively saying the candle lighting prayer; this signifies the start of Collective Worship. Any general announcements should be made prior to this.
- Focus on weekly themes compiled by the Collective Worship Co-ordinator in conjunction with the Headteacher, the school Collective Worship Council, the local Vicar and members of the Church Community.
- Be flexible- respond to the unexpected where appropriate (e.g. international events or disasters).

For learners it will:

- Develop personal spirituality within the school community through a range of experiences including individual and collective prayer.
- Engage pupils and adults with collective worship, making it relevant and transformational to the lives of members of the whole school community.
- Encourage reflection of the theme, including, when appropriate, in relation to Bible stories
- Give opportunities to respond in a variety of ways e.g. singing, movement, drama, experiencing stillness, thinking time.
- Celebrate the God given gifts and talents of individuals and the whole school community.
- Make a significant contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of members of the school community.
- Consider the beliefs and values of others, especially those within the school community.
- Raise aspirations of individuals and the school community.

Patterns and leadership of Collective Worship 2022/23 (timings may vary):

Monday Infants and Juniors meet separately for Collective Worship led by the Headteacher.

Tuesday Infants and Juniors meet separately for Collective Worship.
 Infants - led by the vicar or other representative of the church community (on alternate weeks to Juniors, as available); otherwise by members of the Academy staff
 Juniors - led by the vicar or other representative of the church community (on alternate weeks to Infants, as available); otherwise by members of the Academy staff

Wednesday Infants and Juniors meet separately for Collective Worship focusing on hymns and songs of praise or classroom Collective Worship based on the week's theme, led by members of the Academy staff.

Thursday Infants and Juniors meet separately for Collective Worship focusing on hymns and songs of praise or classroom Collective Worship based on the week's theme, led by

members of the Academy staff.

Friday Infants and Juniors meet separately for Collective Worship led by pupils on class rotation basis or by members of the SLT

It is envisaged that approximately four to six times a year (major festivals etc) Collective Worship will take place in St Mary's Church, Warsash.

Collective worship follows the suggested method for delivering worship using the following 'central attributes':

Gathering:

- Making special and significant this part of the day through appropriate symbol and ceremony

Engaging:

- Using the best available techniques to stimulate interest in the content

Responding

- Ensuring there is time and opportunity for individual, group reflection and thought, so those attending can respond in a variety of ways

Sending:

- Summarising the worship in a meaningful short message used to create an opportunity for those attending to implement the ideas covered and to conclude the worship

To comply with the Policies of the Winchester and Portsmouth Dioceses, it will:

- Reflect the trust deed
- Be clearly outlined in the school prospectus and documentation
- Involve learners and adults in planning, leading and evaluating collective worship
- Be monitored and evaluated for the impact it has on the school community by the Governing Body

A variety of resources are available to assist those responsible for leading Collective Worship.

The Collective Worship co-ordinator is responsible for the resource material.

The current co-ordinator is **Sam Parkes**.

The Governor with responsibility for Collective Worship is **Rev Mike Terry**.

Reviewed by Committee: October 2022

Ratified by Full Governing Body: October 2022

Date for Review: October 2023

Forging Links Committee