



# Hayfield Cross

Church of England Primary School

## Collective Worship Policy

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*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid. The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go' (Joshua 1:9)*

As the harvest grows from the soil, Hayfield Cross came to life in 2015. From nothing, we have grown at the heart of our new community, persevering through challenge into a flourishing school. Guided by our Christian values the seeds of Joy, Integrity and Fellowship are planted as we instil this pioneering spirit in our children, challenging them through exciting learning to aspire to greatness in all that they do.

## Hayfield Cross Church of England School Collective Worship Policy

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The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go' (Joshua 1:9)  
Joy – Integrity - Fellowship*

### Rationale

At Hayfield Cross Church of England Primary School, we understand worship to be a special act or occasion where the purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship involves children and staff coming together and participating in a daily gathering. In line with the school's foundation as a Church of England school, we base our Collective Worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Anglican Church. However, we aim to conduct our Collective Worship in a manner that is sensitive and inclusive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of school.

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Hayfield Cross C of E Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can;

- Share common aims and values
- Celebrate achievement and special times
- Explore together the world in which we live
- Develop a community spirit

### Aims for Collective Worship

The aims and purpose of Collective Worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for the children and school community to worship God
- To enable the children and school community to consider spiritual and moral issues
- To enable the children and adults to explore their own beliefs
- To encourage participation and response
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit
- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes
- To introduce different ways of worshipping

### Collective Worship will be:

Inclusive by:

- Ensuring it is accessible to children and adults of different faith backgrounds, those exploring their own beliefs about faith and those of no faith
- Providing time for reflection so nurturing the awareness of life as a spiritual journey
- Involving children in planning, leading and evaluating Collective Worship
- Reflecting the cultural backgrounds of the local context

Invitational by:

- Enabling all to be present whatever their faith or beliefs
- Recognising that children and adults are free to engage with integrity
- Providing optional invitations for prayer and space to reflect

Inspiring by:

- Enabling children and adults to ask big questions about who we are and why we are here
- Motivating children and adults into action and into the possibilities of thinking and behaving differently
- Encouraging children to become courageous advocates for change

At Hayfield Cross, Collective Worship is integral to our life and work as we offer the distinctive contribution of a Voluntary Aided Church School. We provide an opportunity for children and staff to worship in a contemporary Christian style, which is consistent with the traditional beliefs and practices of the Church of England.

### **Spiritual Ambassadors:**

As a Spiritual Ambassadors in Key Stage 2, it is part of their responsibility to:

- Plan Collective Worship with support from the Collective Worship Lead
- Lead parts/entire acts of Collective Worship
- Evaluate Collective Worship
- Reflect on key events in the calendar
- Develop their understanding of spirituality and support others

### **Practicalities of Organisation**

We hold a daily act of Collective Worship in our school. This forms part of each morning assembly. There is a termly overview of Collective Worship created by our RE and Collective Worship lead (*Appendix 1- 3*) and a format that staff use to plan their assembly (*Appendix 4*). We conduct Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that worship is a special time for thinking and place to reflect. We regard it as a special time and expect them to behave in an appropriate way. We ask children to be quiet, still and thoughtful. They should listen carefully to the teaching and are then invited to participate in prayer and songs. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and a candle that acts as a focal point for the attention of children, to symbolise the start of worship.

The Headteacher, Deputy Head, Assistant Head and other members of staff conduct Collective Worship. Members from Christ the King and St Botolph's are also involved in leading Collective Worship throughout the year. This brings greater variety to our worship times and strengthens links between school and the local church. Parents are invited to Collective Worship in school and at our local churches during special services e.g. at Christmas, Easter and the end of the school year. This promotes the community spirit of the school. We welcome governors' attendance at our collective worship at any time. Other opportunities for prayer and reflection are given at lunchtimes and in classes at the end of each school day. Worship opportunities are also offered to staff, children and their families as we attend services e.g. Christmas Carol Services at Christ the King church.

## Content

A plan of themes is produced annually reflecting the values we have chosen as a school. We also consider and reflect on the festivals and special times of the Christian calendar. A termly record is kept of all acts of worship, recording themes covered and songs/music used. We also hold Collective Worship that reflects the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children 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 children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements recognised.

## Resources

The Usborne Children's Bible is used as a source of Bible material to share with children. Other resources such as songs, PowerPoints etc are kept electronically on the staff shared drive. Our EYFS team start the year by using Imaginor 'Jack in the Box' materials. Staff are often signposted to <https://www.assemblies.org.uk/search.php> to help prepare their Collective Worship.

## Evaluation, Monitoring and review

It is the role of our governors to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship. As part of this, pupil interviews are carried out/ pupil evaluation forms are reviewed etc. This governor liaises with the Headteacher before reporting to governors on Collective Worship. **Our Spiritual Ambassadors also monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship termly so that these can be reviewed before making the next rota.**

## Right of Withdrawal

As a VA school we expect all children to attend assembly, and we discuss this with parents at the time of admission. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with current legislation. The Headteacher keeps a record of any children who are withdrawn from Collective Worship.

## Appendix 1- Monday Worship Example (Headteacher Led)

<b>Collective Worship Stories – led by CC</b>		
<b>Summer Term 2023</b>		
<b>SCHOOL VALUES FOCUS: Integrity</b>		
Date	Person Leading	Story Theme
Wk1	Headteacher	The Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders <b>Matthew 7:24-27</b>
Wk2	Headteacher	Jesus is Tempted <b>Matthew 4:1-11</b>
Wk3	Headteacher	Job and his faithfulness to God
Wk4	Headteacher	Achan's Sin <b>Joshua 7</b>

## Appendix 2 – Tuesday Class Reflection Example

Autumn Term school value focus: Joy


Spring Term school value focus: Fellowship

Spring Term school value focus: Integrity


<b>Worship Wednesday Rota</b>			
<b>Autumn Term 1 2023</b>		<b>SCHOOL VALUES FOCUS: JOY</b>	
Date	Person Leading	Key Theme	Biblical Verse
6 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mr Albert	Welcome Back - Intro Expectations for our school and how we can set good examples to others <b>Respect &amp; Rule of Law</b>	And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. <b>Colossians 3:17</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Mrs Heard	International Day of Democracy <b>Rule of Law</b>	For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king. <b>Isaiah 33:22</b>
20 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Jo Batch (CtK)	New beginnings <b>Creation</b>	Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be. <b>Job 8:7</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Miss Vincitore	Sukkot <b>Judaism Tolerance Respect</b>	Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it and find rest for your souls. <b>Jeremiah 6:16</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Reverend Andy and Helen Tilney (St Bots)	Harvest Festival Celebrating the Joy in what God provides <b>Joy Fellowship Creation Christianity</b>	When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <b>Psalm 67:6</b> The earth has yielded its produce; God, our God, blesses us.

### Appendix 3 – Worship Wednesday Rota Example

Class Reflections are times to reflect, explore and discover through an open question or a key idea. One session each term is linked to wellbeing and another on reflecting upon PSHE learning.



**CLASS REFLECTIONS – AUTUMN TERM 1 (7 weeks – start on first full week)**



This time should ensure that children have time to **REFLECT, EXPLORE** or **DISCOVER** and any discussions and responses should be documented on a page in your **RED** class book.

Year Group & Topic	BIG QUESTION	QUESTION/STATEMENT TO RED...
Year 1 – Step Into the Past	How can a community change things for the better?	<p><i>How do people help each other? Why do people do this?</i></p> <p><i>Wellbeing slot / circle time</i></p> <p><i>What makes a good community?</i></p> <p><i>What is our school community like? How do we help each other?</i></p> <p><i>School Vision (Vocabulary) - When do we show that we are brave?</i></p> <p><i>EXPLORE/REFLECT: Diversity – Black History Month – What is diversity?</i></p> <p><i>Last week: Reflection of PSHE lessons</i></p>
Year 2 – The Great Fire	How can a disaster bring a community together?	<p><i>What is a community?</i></p> <p><i>Wellbeing slot / circle time</i></p> <p><i>Do people need to be the same to belong to a community? Is it good or bad to have different people in a community?</i></p> <p><i>What changes have you seen in your lifetime?</i></p> <p><i>School Vision (Vocabulary) - What does being brave mean to you?</i></p> <p><i>EXPLORE/REFLECT: Diversity – Black History Month - What is diversity?</i></p> <p><i>Last week: Reflection of PSHE lessons</i></p>
Year 3 – Stones and Bones	Does adversity encourage change in a community?	<p><i>How do challenges help change?</i></p> <p><i>Why do some people fail, and some people succeed in the face of adversity?</i></p> <p><i>Wellbeing slot</i></p> <p><i>Why do we study the past? Do you think life was better in the past?</i></p> <p><i>School Vision (Vocabulary) - What do we do at school to show we are brave and strong?</i></p> <p><i>EXPLORE/REFLECT - Community – Black History Month – What does this mean to you?</i></p> <p><i>Last week: Reflection of PSHE lessons</i></p>

### Appendix 4 – Singing Celebration Example



**“Rejoice and Sing”**  
**Singing assembly record**  
**Autumn term 2023**




Week / Theme	Hymns and Songs	Source	Entry Music
<b>31/8/23</b> <b>Welcome back</b> <b>School community songs</b>	Song for Every Day Together as One	Out of the Ark Diocese of Leicester	On Eagle's Wings (Religious)  <i>Hall of Fame every Friday</i>
<b>7/9/23</b> <b>School community songs</b>	Everyone Belongs  Power in Me	Song Library – Glyn Lehmann Rebecca Lawrence: Past & Present	Here comes the <u>sun</u> (Pop/Rock)
<b>14/9/23</b> <b>School values and expectations / Resilience</b> Song bank for in-class use: Y6 history workshop in hall	Build Up! One moment, One People Every journey begins with a small step	<u>Fischy</u> Music Sing Up YouTube Out of the Ark	Our Father which art in Heaven (Choral)
<b>21/9/23</b> <b>Harvest and Sukkot</b> Harvest Festival: 4/10/23	Harvest Samba Dingle-Dangle Scarecrow (YR) Easy <u>PEasy</u> Harvest Paintbox It's Harvest time	Out of the Ark YouTube Sheila Wilson YouTube Easy <u>PEasy</u> plays	Watoto Choir – God's Great Dance Floor (African/contemporary Gospel)
<b>28/9/23</b> <b>Harvest and Sukkot</b> Rehearse in class – Macmillan coffee morning in the hall	Harvest Samba Dingle-Dangle Scarecrow (YR) Let's Harvest	Out of the Ark YouTube Al Start Go Kid Music	For the beauty of the Earth (Traditional Harvest hymn)
<b>5/10/23</b> <b>Autumn</b>	Turn back the <u>clocks</u> Autumn Days	Out of the Ark Come and Praise	Autumn: The Four Seasons (Western classical)

Appendix 5 – Collective Worship (Worship Wednesday) planning template

<b>Collective Worship</b>	
<b>Theme and key message:</b>	
<b>Biblical text or verse:</b>	
<b>Main resources:</b>	
<b>Link to vision and values:</b>	
<b>1. Gathering:</b>	<i>Will you have entry music? A quote or picture on display?</i>
<b>2. Engage:</b>	<i>Theme introduced, key questions/ Biblical text explored. How will you engage children in the worship?</i>
<b>3. Responding/Reflecting:</b>	<i>Provide children with an opportunity to make <u>personal</u> connections and reflect on what they have heard and understood.</i>
<b>4. Sending out:</b>	<i>What is the key message you wish the children to go away with? How do you want to end the act of worship? Will you use a sending out song or music? What will be your prayer at the end?</i>