



Archbishop Hutton's V.C. Primary School Collective Worship Policy

Date approved: July 2020

Next Review: July 2022

Signed: **M Jackson**

M. Jackson (Chair of Governors, Mrs. M. Jackson)

Date: July 2020

Signed: **S Watson**

S. Watson (Headteacher, Miss. S. Watson)

Date: July 2020

Our Vision for Archbishop Hutton's VC Primary School is:

By promoting the traditional values of respectful behaviour, responsibility and forgiveness, we prepare our children for life in a global, multi-faith society.

By supporting all children to become independent thinkers and confident learners, we encourage curiosity, ambition and individuality.

By providing focused, engaging and inclusive teaching we equip the children to lead their own learning in a supportive and challenging environment.

Jesus says in Matthew that 'a tree is known by its fruit.' As a school we are known by the children that we nurture. Through actively promoting children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development with a strong focus on Christian values, our mission is:

To create responsible citizens who:

- are polite, considerate and respect others
- work and play co-operatively and positively with others
- communicate effectively for a range of purposes, sharing ideas and listening to the ideas and opinions of others
- are aware of diversity, show tolerance and understanding

- understand local and global issues, and the part they can play in affecting change

To create successful learners who:

- are motivated by the adventure of learning
- achieve all they are capable of, making consistent progress
- enjoy thinking creatively, solving problems and using their enquiring minds
- participate actively in a variety of learning experiences
- respond to challenge - demonstrating perseverance, resilience and commitment

To create confident individuals who:

- have a sense of self-worth and personal identity
- are responsible, courageous and independent
- have a good understanding of personal well-being
- have secure values and beliefs based on sound moral principles
- are developing a spiritual awareness and an understanding of their place in the world
- are equipped for the challenges that face them in the future.

Archbishop Hutton's is a Voluntary Controlled school, with close links to the local church and community. As such, we believe that an understanding of the Christian faith informs all aspects of our life together and commits us to a search for truth and meaning.

Collective Worship is one of the most important parts of the school day, bringing all the children and staff together. The aim is to give the children an opportunity to be still to listen and to reflect.

At Archbishop Hutton's VC Primary School, we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. It is an opportunity to promote the Christian foundation of our school, to celebrate and support all aspects of school life and to provide time for stillness and reflection as well as to enjoy the experience of being part of a wider family in what is often a very busy, active day for our children.

We recognise that in our school there may be children from a variety of faith traditions, including those who have no faith background at all. Great care and sensitivity will be taken to ensure that all our children feel valued and special.

Requirements:

The statutory duty of the school is to provide a daily act of collective worship for all pupils in line with the school's trust deed which must be of a "wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character". This is the responsibility of the headteacher and the governing body.

Note: Pupils may be withdrawn by their parents from collective worship on religious grounds and staff will be allocated to ensure their safety during these periods.

It is our intention that Collective Worship at our school will fulfil the legal requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act, pertaining to Voluntary Controlled Schools.

The Governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that these requirements are met. We promote a Christian Ethos in our school, where the values of our Christian faith of mutual respect, care and love are embedded in every area of our school life. We aim to contribute to the faith of every individual in the school.

Aims:

The aim of collective worship at Archbishop Hutton's VC Primary School is to give our pupils opportunity to:

- Learn about and worship God in an environment which allows/facilitates the promotion of pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and enables pupils to explore their own beliefs.
- To promote a common sense of ethos and shared values.
- To help our pupils to develop respect for and sensitivity to the beliefs, culture and values of others.
- To provide opportunities for reflection and encourage children's sense of awe and wonder.
- To help our pupils understand the nature and language of worship.
- To support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, poetry, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.

Our Christian Values

- Compassion
- Truthfulness
- Perseverance
- Friendship
- Responsibility
- Forgiveness

Guidelines for Collective Worship:

Collective Worship will be held daily. The weekly cycle is:

On **Mondays**, Collective Worship is led by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. This session is linked to that term's theme and values. This session is closely linked to the Roots and Fruits collective worship scheme.

On **Tuesdays**, Collective Worship is a teacher led reflection in class. It is linked to Monday's themes and closely linked to schools agreed values and key events.

On **Wednesdays**, Collective Worship is at the end of the day and is led by members of the local church or School Senior leaders. The School Worship Team usually take part, presenting drama, poem or story.

On **Thursdays** we enjoy meeting for Singing/Hymn Practice.

Fridays are for celebration! We celebrate the children and school's achievements throughout the week. Parents are invited and we end the week with the school prayer, led by the School Worship Team.

The sessions will be broadly Christian, but the music, stories and themes will allow all the children to benefit from them. The format of Collective Worship will allow for a variety of agreed themes and stories, styles and presentations
Themes for worship will usually last for five to six weeks. (Around ½ a term)

Across the year different groups of children also take responsibility for leading special acts of collective worship e.g. Harvest, Easter, Remembrance.

The following identifies a range of elements which our children may experience and be used to help to encourage the religious development of the children, and understand the meaning of worship:

- Songs and music from a variety of cultures.
- Prayer (traditional and contemporary)
- Reflection and contemplation.
- Individual and group activity.
- Bible readings and material adapted from it (using the Roots and Fruits scheme)
- Special clothing, artefacts.
- Discussion, speech and silence.
- Dance and drama.
- Use of the senses.

Monitoring and Up-Dating Collective Worship:

The Headteacher, Collective Worship lead and link governor monitor the provision and standard of Collective Worship at Archbishop Hutton's Primary School.

In addition, children's views on collective worship via discussion and questionnaires will be sought and responses collated. All staff should ensure that collective worship meets the aims of the school policy.

The lead teacher will be allocated an annual budget to up-date resources and will attend, organise or lead INSET on a regular basis. The Collective Worship policy will also be regularly reviewed.

The legal requirements for Collective Worship in our school:

(a) Legal Basis

Collective Worship in Church Schools is governed by both the 1944 and 1988 Education Acts as well as by the Trust Deed of the School. The Collective Worship provided by the school must be in accordance with the Trust Deed for a VC school.

(b) Daily Worship

Daily Collective Worship has to be provided for every pupil. This worship may take place in various groupings such as the whole school, separate Key Stage groups, year groups or house groups or in classes or tutor groups, but not faith groups. Worship may take place at any point in the school day.

(c) Worship in Church

In a Voluntary Controlled School, Worship may take place in Church in addition to the daily act of Collective Worship in school.

(d) Parental rights of withdrawal

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship and this provision and its limitations are indicated below:

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England Foundation. This Foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate pupils from the religious life of the school.

(e) Complaints about the provision of Collective Worship

It is hoped that any complaint will be resolved informally by the Head Teacher, in consultation with the Governors, and possibly with advice from the Diocese. However, if the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved, then formal procedures come into play and the matter will be adjudicated by a specially constituted sub-committee of the Diocesan Board of Education acting on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese.

Review of Policy:

This policy will be reviewed on a two-year rolling cycle by the Governing Body and Head Teacher. It is next due to be reviewed on _____.

