

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

**This policy was approved by Governors on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026 and will be reviewed in Spring 2027**

### Introduction

It is the school's aim to:

- provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God,
- consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs,
- allow children to develop spiritually and become aware of God, one another, the world around them and themselves
- encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered,
- develop community spirit,
- promote a Christian ethos and shared values,
- reinforce positive attitudes,
- provide the opportunity to celebrate and share,
- provide the opportunity for the pupils to learn about and express creatively some aspects of worship,
- provide a special time, when pupils come together and share in an experience when they look beyond themselves towards a higher purpose and meaning for their lives.

### The Nature of Collective Worship

Collective worship, by its very nature, should reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities and through it people may give attention to, interact with and express those highest values and concerns which are the basis of their most deeply held beliefs. Collective worship at our school should therefore help young people to develop consistent belief patterns and the skills to recognise, interact with, and express them in their lives.

Collective worship may explore particular values and qualities, concerns and feelings, experiences and questions. Participants are then asked to consider their own values, ideas and feelings about the topic.

There will be many occasions when collective worship can be related to the day-to-day life, aspirations and concerns of the school as well as global issues and chances to develop spiritually.

This policy recognises that *Collective Worship* is not to be confused with the concept of *assembly*.

### Entitlement

The entitlement for Collective Worship is stated in the School Standards and Framework Act (1998), Section 70 (p.56) and 71. [See enclosed appendix.]

“The daily act of collective worship required by law in the school shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England”. *[The National Society]*

## Implementation

The act of worship will be daily and will normally take place on the school premises. Pupils also have the opportunity to take part in Collective Worship at our local parish church of St. Peter’s, Navenby, at various times throughout the year.

Usually the whole school will worship together at least four days a week and on the other day the pupils will worship together in their classes. There may be occasions when these arrangements will need to be changed according to circumstances. On one of these whole school occasions, the school will come together in what is described as a ‘celebration’ in which we recognise the worth of individual and group achievements, attitudes and performances in subjects across our curriculum.

Acts of worship will generally include time for quiet reflection and may be led by the Headteacher, the Deputy, a Class Teacher, Church Friends, Joy Foundation, visiting speakers or the pupils. Collective Worship councillors from Year 6 support with the overall running of Collective Worship and choose a prayer to be read at the end. They are also supported to lead worship sessions throughout the year. Parents, governors and school visitors are invited to attend any act of Collective Worship.

No member of staff may be required to attend or lead an act of worship against his/her will.

Acts of Worship in our school are planned according to the perceived needs and stage of development of pupils within the aims, ethos and Christian Values of our Church school. In both Key Stages, this may be preceded by a question, a story, poem, song, a discussion– or a combination of these using a focal point (e.g. lighted candle, flower, etc.). Prayers are always Christian in nature and pupils learn the Lord’s Prayer as well as our school prayer. Pupils are encouraged to say their own prayers and to share their prayers with others, as appropriate. When a prayer is said by the leader of a worship, the children and staff are invited to make it their own prayer by saying ‘Amen’.

Planning for Acts of Worship is based on six Christian Values (thankfulness, peace, faithfulness, respect, hope and forgiveness) and works on a bi-annual cycle with sub-themes. This allows the use of material from a wide range of cultural and religious sources, in addition to Christianity, and contributes to pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Major Christian festivals, Saints’ Days and other events in the Church year are included where appropriate. Children’s spontaneity is valued and unexpected opportunities are taken to further pupils’ spiritual development. Opportunities for linking acts of worship with classroom teaching and learning are taken where appropriate

## Review

The Governing Body recognises the importance of keeping its Collective Worship Policy up-to-date and will review the policy on an annual basis.

Policy Approved: Full Governors meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Signed:

Chair of Governors: ..... Mr J Kirby

Head teacher ..... Mr C Elliott

**APPENDIX**

**Collective Worship Timetable 2025-26**

Monday	9:05 – Whole School Collective Worship led by the Headteacher/Deputy Head/Joy Foundation.
Tuesday	9.05 – Whole School Collective Worship, in the hall, led by Church Friends
Wednesday	9:05 - Whole School Collective Worship led by class teachers
Thursday	Class worship Picture News – focusing on British Values Prayer activity focused on the term’s Christian value
Friday	09:05 – Whole School ‘Celebration’ Class celebrations led by class teachers Subject celebrations led by subject leader