

# Collective Worship Policy

## VISION

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At Holy Trinity we welcome you to an exciting world of learning, discovery and friendship. We are passionate about nurturing every child, helping them to find and develop their own talents and be the best that they possibly can. Children will learn within a Christian community, surrounded by support, kindness, respect and fun; and will leave with fantastic memories to cherish forever.

## Pupils' Voice

"Worship time makes me think about Jesus. It helps me feel dignified and clears my head. Worship makes me feel happy and sad and it makes me want to play with people who have no friends. We like really enjoy it when the children get involved."

Policy drafted by: Penny Cox

Date: Spring 2015

Review: Nov 2016

Next review: Nov 17

## Introduction

The policy provides the framework for the school to meet its statutory responsibilities by ensuring:

- The school provides a daily act of collective worship that is available to all children. The content is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. Parents have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship, and this is respected.

At Holy Trinity Primary School Church of England school we aim to help each child to

- Realise his or her maximum potential spiritually, mentally and physically
- Develop a moral and social awareness of the needs of others
- Find enjoyment in his/her school life and gain satisfaction and self-confidence in their achievements

We recognise that many members of our school do not come from a Christian background; we try to make the collective worship a sensitive time so that all pupils feel that they are able to contribute. We want to encourage participation by the pupils, so that they feel accepted and supported.

## The aims of collective worship are:

- To provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God and to begin to develop a relationship with Him through Jesus
- To consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- To enable pupils to use silence for reflection, contemplation, meditation or prayer
- To develop a sense of a caring community within the school, and of being part of a wider community
- To promote a common Christian ethos and shared values
- To celebrate achievements and special occasions in respect of individuals, the school and the community
- To help pupils develop shared values – honesty, respect, tolerance, self-discipline and forgiveness
- To help children appreciate that people differ and should be approached in a spirit of openness and tolerance whatever their beliefs or culture
- To develop an awareness of and a concern for the needs of others
- To provide an opportunity for thanksgiving and to enjoy the unity which derives from sharing friendship, acceptance, forgiveness, joys, hopes and anxieties

## Organisation of Worship at Holy Trinity CE Primary School:

- A worship opportunity is held each day.
- Regular weekly worships are taken by the staff from Holy Trinity Church.
- Occasionally visitors from various organisations talk to the children.
- Weekly pattern:

**Monday** – 9.05am - whole school worship (taken by staff from Holy Trinity Church)

**Tuesday** – Singing assembly As the school extends its repertoire of songs, we want to value the contribution singing makes to our lives. The songs we sing come from a variety of traditions and are used to enrich the theme of the worship.

**Wednesday** – In class worship, this is planned to develop the theme of the Monday worship

**Thursday** – Celebration assembly

**Friday** – 9.10 am – whole school or class (parents invited), worship/assembly each term

We believe that it is important in collective worship for the children to experience a rich variety of experiences and opportunities.

Class assemblies with the whole school are usually based around a specific curriculum area. It is an opportunity for the whole school to celebrate a class's achievements and to encourage reflection upon what is being done in different parts of the school. These assemblies will always involve prayers.

During the year we have special services in school time at Holy Trinity Church, e.g. Christmas and Easter.