



Every Child Every Chance Every Day

Collective Worship Policy

School Leader: E Fern

Policy Approved: September 2025

A. Cruickshank

Policy Reviewed

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Rationale

Collective Worship is at the heart of our school community. Recognising its historic foundation, the school seeks to preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at Parish and Diocesan level.

Our school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. Worship offers all members of our school family - children and adults alike - opportunities to reflect on life's big questions, explore faith and experience awe, wonder and stillness.

Worship reflects and reinforces our GROW Values:

- **Grateful** – give thanks everyday
- **Respectful** – remember our manner
- **Outstanding** – only ever try our best
- **Welcoming** – walk around school wearing a smile

These values shape the way we live, learn and treat one another. Worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring, allowing everyone to engage at their own level of faith, belief, or curiosity. In doing so, it promotes spiritual flourishing and a sense of belonging for all.

This policy directly supports SIAMS Inspection Question 3:
“How is collective worship enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritually?”

Through the richness and variety of our worship, all members of the school community are encouraged to pause, reflect and respond in ways that nurture spiritual growth, empathy, compassion and moral courage.

Aims

Our collective worship provides pupils and staff with the opportunity to:

- Flourish spiritually through reflection, wonder and response.
- Live out our GROW Values, strengthening character and community.
- Explore Christian values and their impact on daily life.
- Engage in an act of community that celebrates unity and diversity.
- Experience awe, stillness, joy and gratitude.
- Reflect on the character and teachings of Jesus.
- Deepen understanding of the Christian faith and learn from other world faiths.

- Explore British Values - democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance - through a spiritual lens.
- Celebrate diversity and promote equality by recognising the importance of the Protected Characteristics outlined in the Equality Act (2010).
- Encourage courageous advocacy, compassion, and hope.
- Share joys and challenges together as a school family.
- Celebrate special times within the Christian calendar and other key cultural or national moments.

Planning and Structure

Collective Worship is carefully planned by the Worship Leader, taking account of the school's Christian ethos, the church calendar and national and world events. We use the Roots and Fruits resource to support planning and ensure progression in spiritual reflection and theological understanding.

Each half term focuses on a core Christian value linked to one or more of our GROW Values. Each act of worship includes time for stillness, prayer, or reflection, providing space for all pupils and adults to respond in their own way.

Class Worship uses Picture News as a resource to help pupils engage with topical issues through a spiritual and moral lens. This supports the development of British Values and awareness of Protected Characteristics by linking current affairs to faith, morality and social responsibility. These sessions encourage open discussion, empathy and respect, helping pupils connect global events to their own lives and the teachings of Jesus.

Organisation

The Headteacher ensures that all pupils and staff have the opportunity to participate in a daily act of Collective Worship.

- Monday: Whole school worship led by senior leaders.
- Tuesday: Years 5 & 6 engage in Oracy-based Worship using Roots and Fruits; Years 3 & 4 participate in Class Worship using Picture News.
- Wednesday: Groups switch activities to ensure balance and parity of experience.
- Thursday: Whole school worship led by members of Osmaston Road Church.
- Friday: Whole school celebration worship, recognising pupils who have demonstrated our GROW Values throughout the week.

Each class leads an act of worship for the whole school at least once a year, encouraging pupil leadership, creativity and ownership. Worship is inclusive and invitational, providing opportunities for everyone to participate or simply reflect.

Spirituality and Flourishing

Spirituality is at the core of our collective worship and is expressed through our shared reflective language of 'Ows, Wows and Nows':

- **Ow** - moments recognise sadness, challenge, or empathy - inviting reflection on suffering, difficulty, or injustice in the world.
- **Wow** - moments celebrate awe, wonder and gratitude - recognising beauty, joy and the extraordinary in the everyday.
- **Now** - moments encourage personal reflection and response - considering how what we have heard or felt might influence our words, actions, or choices.

This shared language helps pupils and adults to explore spirituality in a tangible, inclusive and accessible way. It supports spiritual flourishing by encouraging thoughtful reflection and purposeful action both within and beyond worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Prayer is a key element of our worship but is always invitational, inclusive and inspiring. Pupils are invited - but never required - to join in prayer or moments of silence. Our School Prayer, written around our GROW Values, is often used to close worship. Pupils are also encouraged to write and share their own prayers, deepening their sense of spiritual voice and agency.

Inclusivity and Equal Opportunities

Our worship reflects the Anglican nature of the school's foundation in ways that are appropriate to the ages, abilities and backgrounds of our pupils. Worship is accessible, respectful and inclusive of all faiths and none.

Through Picture News and other resources, we explore themes of equality, respect and justice - supporting pupils' understanding of the Protected Characteristics and promoting dignity and value for every person. In this way, collective worship nurtures a school culture rooted in love, acceptance and mutual respect, fully aligned with our GROW Values of being Respectful and Welcoming.

Partnerships and Community

Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend key acts of worship throughout the year. The local clergy from Osmaston Road Church regularly lead worship, strengthening our connection with the parish and the wider Christian community. Special services and celebrations are held both in school and at church to mark key moments in the Christian calendar.

Through community links and acts of service, pupils live out the Outstanding element of our GROW Values - developing leadership, empathy, justice and a deep sense of purpose.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of collective worship is monitored regularly through pupil and staff feedback, observation and reflection. The Worship Leader reviews the impact of worship on the spiritual life of the school, ensuring that it continues to inspire and nurture all members of the community.

Findings are used to shape future planning so that collective worship remains dynamic, relevant and spiritually enriching.