

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School



'Caring, Curious and Confident'

'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' - Matthew 7 v 17

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

**Agreed by Full Governors 1st February 2022
Review January 2024**

Curry Rivel Church of England School is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School and as such has a Christian tradition and ethos. Our collective worship reflects and reinforces the school's vision and aims:

'Caring, Curious and Confident'

'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' - Matthew 7 v 17

At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School we nurture our children to become 'Caring, Curious and Confident' young people. We have chosen a tree with its leaves and fruit to symbolise our vision and values. The tree represents the school, rooted to the village community and local area. The leaves, our 'Caring, Curious and Confident' children, and the fruit, our school's core Christian values.

Building on these core Christian values of **hope, thankfulness, forgiveness, courage and love** we care for each other and our world. We develop resilience, confidence, creativity and independence through our innovative and diverse curriculum, inspiring and motivating everyone to thrive. Our core Christian values underpin our school, providing the best possible environment for these fruit to grow and ripen within our children and whole community.

AIMS:

We aim for each child to be:

A caring person who:

- 👉 shows respect and values others by being kind, generous, co-operative, tolerant, forgiving and thankful.
- 👉 carefully considers their behaviour and has the courage and skills to make good choices.
- 👉 respects and values their surroundings.

A curious learner who:

- 👉 has the skills to learn and is a creative thinker.
- 👉 has high expectations of themselves but knows they can learn from mistakes.
- 👉 experiences success - in academic, creative, social, practical and physical activities.

A confident individual who:

- 👉 is courageous, resourceful and responsible.
- 👉 celebrates their successes and those of others.
- 👉 takes pride in themselves, in their work, in their school and is thankful for the support they receive.

Our collective worship both implicitly, and explicitly, demonstrates our Christian values of **hope, thankfulness, forgiveness, courage and love.**

At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School we consider collective worship to be an important part of the school day. An opportunity to reflect and develop the school's distinctive Christian character but also an opportunity to contribute to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of pupils and staff.

Aims of our acts of collective worship.

We aim for our collective worship to

- a) Be a daily expression of our school's Christian vision.
- b) Be inclusive, invitational and inspiring for all pupils, staff and parents and visitors
- c) Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- d) Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- e) Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language.

- f) Enable pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- g) Encourage local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

Collective worship includes the educational opportunities for

- a) the whole community to celebrate;
- b) sharing and experiencing differences;
- c) developing a culture of learning;
- d) building a sense of group identity;
- e) encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
- f) a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- g) learning how to behave in a large social group;
- h) exploring feelings and emotions;
- i) learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- j) learning how to respond to a performance;
- k) making visible the school's leadership;
- l) developing inner awareness.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of collective worship which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and Foundation. The school meets with requirement. This requirement is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and handbook. NB. In a controlled school (or if they were first employed when the school was a controlled school), staff have the right to withdraw from the act of collective worship.

It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school prospectus.

Planning of Collective Worship

The Head Teacher plans the themes for the year / term and then creates a detailed half termly plan taking account of school activities, festivals and import events. This is supported by the vicar and other ministers.

The person leading the collective worship is expected to plan their worship as carefully as they would a lesson.

Pupils are involved in planning and leading Collective Worship leading aspects of whole school worship.

Themes

- We take the themes of our Collective Worship from The Diocese of Guildford:
<https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/education/christian-distinctiveness/collective-worship>
- In addition each term the festivals and events of the Christian calendar are included.

Visitors

We welcome visitors to our collective worship. Some visitors are invited to share their experiences, linked to the theme of the collective worship, other visitors present a whole collective worship on a theme requested by the Headteacher. We welcome Rev Scott Paterson (Church of England), Rev Matt Cottingham (Baptist Church) and Rev Tim Richards (United Reformed Church) Visitors should understand that in schools **E** is for **Education** not **Evangelism** and avoid proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause without the prior permission of the headteacher.

Governors

We welcome Governors' attendance at our assemblies at any time.

Monitoring, Review and Inspection

It is the role of the Governors to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship.

The content and brief self-evaluation by the person leading the worship are recorded in a folder, which is kept in the Head Teacher's office.

The Christian Distinctiveness Committee seeks feedback from the children and staff about collective worship each term.

The School will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection

