

"Let all that you do be done with love." 1 Corinthians 16:14



Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School Policy for Collective Worship 2024-2027

Our Vision and Mission

With God's guidance, we demonstrate a passionate commitment to **inspiring a love for learning**. We celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and together with parents, the church and wider community, we seek to discover the potential within all our children, preparing them to be happy, aspirational, kind and responsible citizens within our diverse society. We encourage our children and school community to:

"Let all that you do be done with love" (1 Corinthians 16:14)
so that all may flourish and succeed

Our Values

Guided by Christian and British values, we maintain that learning should be an exciting and enjoyable experience for everyone (adults and children); it should be fun and interactive, challenging and celebratory so a love for learning deepens.

Our Christian values support our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development as we grow and learn together in a happy, safe, aspirational environment. Through God's example, we celebrate the uniqueness of each individual and endeavour to unlock their full potential. We inspire and enable our children to contribute to and thrive in a diverse society through promoting the following core values:

Kindness, Peace, Hope, Forgiveness and Respect

In so doing, our vision is that our whole community will actively demonstrate: "Let all that you do be done with love."

Vision to Practice

The vision of the school, encompassing all that we stand for, is reflected in and expressed through Collective Worship at Croxton Kerrial School; it derives from the Christian tradition and seeks to activate our beliefs and values. Collective Worship, within a Christian context, plays an important part in the life of our school. It is a spiritual time in the school day when children meet together with members of staff, in a calm and peaceful atmosphere and where all present are given the opportunity to reflect and participate. Collective Worship at Croxton Kerrial is "welcoming, inclusive and exemplifies the principles of Christian hospitality".

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly, although we understand that some parents may choose to withdraw their child if they wish. Collective worship will link to the 'Understanding Christianity Project' where possible to secure children's learning.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school and may reference the beliefs of others.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and the wider community.

Legal requirements

- Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school, which requires worship to be consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and will, therefore, be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian in character.
- The 1988 Education Reform Act states that Collective Worship should be part of a broad and balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and society.
- All maintained schools – including church schools – must provide a daily act of Collective Worship for all registered pupils.
- Parents have the right to withdraw pupils from collective worship.

Aims of Collective Worship

- Collective worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring at Croxton Kerrial School.
- Collective worship encourages pupils to consider fundamental questions about the purpose of being and about moral and ethical stances.
- Collective worship brings children together, enabling them to experience the security of belonging to a community.
- Collective worship affirms the Christian faith and the Christian status of Jesus as Son of God.

Objectives

- Explore the school's vision and how that underpins our shared values and virtues
- Introduce pupils to the practice of religious worship through music, art, story, poetry, movement and prayer
- Create a warm, caring, respectful atmosphere conducive to worship; including the manner of entry and exit
- Help pupils experience a sense of awe, wonder, reverence and inner stillness
- Raise pupil's curiosity about the ultimate mysteries of life
- To develop a sense of spirituality
- Enable pupils to learn about and consider in depth Christian teaching, Christian festivals and biblical material and well as other faiths or those of no faith
- Help pupils appreciate that we are 'stewards' of God's world
- Enable pupils to reflect upon their own beliefs in relation to those of others
- Enhance pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Guide children towards the spiritual and religious options open to them
- Help children distinguish between right and wrong

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- Affirm pupils’ personal worth and responsibility
- Celebrate individual and collective achievements
- Develop a sense of community within the school
- Celebrate religious festivals and special occasions with specified worship

Management of Collective Worship

The Local Governing Committee is responsible for:

- Ensuring that the foundation of the school is honoured and that the worship policy is firmly based upon the intentions set down in the Trust Deed
- Ensuring that the Collective Worship Policy is put into practice and monitored by the nominated advocate.
- Engaging with the SIAMS Section 48 Inspection of a church school alongside the OFSTED Inspection.

The Head of School has responsibility for managing the worship on a day-to-day basis ensuring that all legal requirements are complied with.

Collective Worship will be reviewed within the cycle of School Improvement Planning. This review will cover the following aspects of collective worship: themes and approaches, the development of resources, staff training and support, pupil participation and response.

Organisation

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each daily assembly, which is normally a whole-school assembly. Posters are displayed on the Collective Worship board to show the aims of worship for the week, the Christian value to focus on and a bible quotation linked to the theme. This continues through Open Worship with parents, families and friends where we also celebrate the children’s love of learning and use of their character muscles through the school values.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way to help provide a tangible spiritual experience for all present. We teach children that worship and assembly is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and invite them to participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

Pupils are invited out to say spontaneous prayers during assemblies and are also encouraged to write prayers, either in lessons or voluntarily at home, which may be read out by them or the adult in charge if they prefer. Prayers are also said before lunch and at the end of the day. Pupils learn and say together from memory our School Prayer, The Lord’s Prayer, Lunchtime Prayer and Home time prayer.

The Head of School or other members of staff normally conduct assemblies, but sometimes local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups conduct them as well. Pupils are also invited to lead assemblies, based on the theme for the week.

RECORDS AND MONITORING

- Themes for Collective Worship can be found in the open worship file.
- Related resources and ideas are held on Teams and with the RE resources.

Monitoring of Collective Worship is carried out jointly by the Head of School and RE coordinator. Governors also support this process with termly visits:

- Checking that practice matches aims and objectives.
- Classroom feedback from pupils, both written and verbal.
- Comments from parents, visitors and governors.
- The extent of the influence upon pupils' attitude and behaviour throughout the school day.

The Worship Leaders lead children in evaluating the Collective Worship and these are fed back to the senior leadership team regularly. Staff meetings are used for discussion and the update of information as and when necessary.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils have equal opportunity to take part in Collective Worship and to benefit from the experience. The school website informs parents of their right to withdraw pupils from Collective Worship. Such pupils are fully supervised in another part of the school.

Multiculturalism

Collective Worship celebrates the global and multicultural nature of Christian worship. A variety of multicultural material is available throughout the school. Stories are shared and festivals celebrated in accordance with the major faiths represented within the world. Acceptance and understanding of other religions is encouraged through the teaching of RE, PSHCE and through worship.

Review

The Local Governing Committee will review this policy, formally, 3 years from the date of its adoption. Informal Review may be necessary in the interim and should take place as and when required.

Reviewed and approved by the LGC Spring term 2024

Signed _____ Chair of Governors

Sources

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Collective%20Worship%20Guidance%2018052021.pdf>