

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

*We are a caring Christian Community built on Compassion,
Trust, Friendship and Hope*

Collective Worship Policy



Date of Policy:	September 2017
Date of Review:	September 2019
Adopted by Governing Body:	September 2017
Signed by Chair of Governors:	Katherine Wright

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

Collective Worship Policy

1) Introduction








This policy outlines the purpose, nature and leadership of Collective Worship at Spalding Parish Church of England Day School. As a Church of England school, Collective Worship is central to the life of the school.

The Collective Worship Policy at Spalding Parish Church of England Day School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the Local Authority through its SACRE and also the Diocese.

This policy is consistent with the philosophy and aims of the school as expressed in the school prospectus. It reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole teaching staff and has the support and agreement of the Governing Body. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all members of staff.

2) Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of Collective Worship are:





-  to provide an opportunity for pupils and staff to worship God;
-  to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
-  to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
-  to encourage participation and response;
-  to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
-  to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
-  to teach children how to worship.

3) Collective Worship

At Spalding Parish Church of England Day School we understand worship to be a special act whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship in our school involves all members of the school coming together to take an active part in worship. Children regularly lead times of worship and we welcome visitors to lead worship too. The school choir also take an active role in leading worship both in acts of worship in school and in church.

Being a Church of England school our acts of worship are based on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

Our Collective Worship offers pupils and staff opportunities to:

-  explore and share beliefs;
-  consider the importance of prayer, reflection and silence to consider the relevance of ideas and beliefs to their own lives;
-  think about the needs of others and develop a sense of community;
-  appreciate the importance of religious beliefs to those who hold them.

Collective Worship will offer the opportunity to reaffirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school.

.4) Organisation of Collective Worship

A daily act of Collective Worship is held in our school. During the week it is led by a mixture of staff, clergy and children.

Collective Worship is conducted in a dignified and respectful manner. Pupils know that it is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children and adults to behave appropriately. We ask everyone to be thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings, participating fully in prayers, hymns and activities.

Times of worship begin with the lighting of a candle as a symbol that this is a special time. The themes of our acts of Collective Worship are taken from the traditions and values of the Christian faith, reflecting the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. We encourage pupils to learn about and appreciate different beliefs: promoting awareness, understanding and respect. The themes for Collective Worship reflect and build on the key values of our school community, wider Christian community and topics taught across the curriculum.

Collective Worship is led by a range of members of staff. Staff can choose not to lead worship, and their reasons will be respected. The themes are planned by the Collective Worship leader in conjunction with the clergy of St. Mary and St. Nicolas church. Links are often made to the PSHCE curriculum, encouraging children's social, moral education.

A variety of traditional and modern hymns are taught by a member of the community from St. Mary and St. Nicolas Church. These are then used in acts of worship, both in school and at church.

Collective Worship Times

Monday	9.00 – Choral Worship (all)
Tuesday	9.00 – Collective Worship (all)
Wednesday	9.00 – Child/Clergy led Collective Worship (all)
Thursday	9.00 – Celebration Assembly/Worship(KS1) Class Based Collective Worship(KS2)
Friday	9.00 – Class Based Collective Worship(KS1) Celebration Assembly/Worship(KS2)

Class assemblies including an act of worship take place on a termly basis to which parents are invited. We welcome Governor's attendance at our Collective acts of worship at any time, with formal invitations to all church services being sent. Celebration assemblies/acts of worship take part when there is not a class assembly. These celebrations offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.

5) Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship. The school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1988 Education Reform Act.

Parents wishing to exercise this right are requested to do so in writing following a meeting with the Head Teacher, this will be recorded for future reference.

6) Resources

Child and clergy led worship use resources from A Teacher's Dozen, a resource that links Collective Worship with the SEAL Curriculum. A range of hymn books are available in school containing both traditional and modern worship songs.

7) Monitoring and Review

It is the role of the Head Teacher, in conjunction with a named school governor with responsibility for Religious Education and Collective Worship and the Collective Worship Lead, to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship, reporting to the Governing Body. Collective Worship is recorded by the Collective Worship leaders, who provide feedback on the act of worship in order for those leading it to evaluate their practice and make any changes as appropriate.

The Board of Governors reviews this policy every two years or earlier if it is felt appropriate.