

# **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

POLICY CONTROL	
Responsible Governor Committee:	Standards and Curriculum
Approved by Governors:	Spring 2023
Review Date:	Spring 2026

## 'Love your neighbour as yourself'

Parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

Our school policies are written with the objective of realising our vision:

As we journey together, we learn to live as good neighbours, demonstrating love, compassion, dignity and respect to all in our communities.

Through this we aspire to become global citizens, courageous advocates and people of wisdom and integrity.

We look towards the parable of the Good Samaritan as our guide.

A school where all **children** are **valued**, where they **feel safe**, are **happy** and **learn well**. We want our school to have a warm friendly atmosphere, which supports families, builds relationships and sets children up for a life of learning. We want our Christian values to guide our pupils along the right path and help them to achieve fulfilling and happy lives.

#### **OUR SCHOOL VALUES**

Adderley and Moreton Say Church of England Primary Schools values:

Respect | Hopefulness | Kindness | Courage | Integrity | Curiosity

Across the AddMore Federation our Christian vision and values are at the heart of everything we do, and we believe that:

'Collective Worship in a Church school should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. (John 10:10).

## **Aims and Objectives:**

Our vision reminds us that leading by example and demonstrating those values we hold close is powerful and engenders a sense community and advocacy for all. This is a big vision which firmly sets the emotional, social, spiritual and academic growth of our pupils at the heart of everything that we do. This alongside our six Christian Values are at the heart of how we plan and deliver our Collective Worship. Worship takes place at the end of each day, usually in the hall.

We understand spirituality to mean that children develop a sense of themselves, others, beauty and the beyond. Our worship is Christian in nature, in accordance with our status as a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school but is inclusive and invitational. Collective Worship gives pupils and staff opportunities for reflection and prayer and reaffirmation about how our Christian values are rooted in the teachings of the Bible.

For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Across the federation we recognise that we are not a church, but a family who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of worship, reflection and discussion.

As a federation we celebrate the backgrounds of our school community and understand that collective worship must take into account all beliefs and backgrounds.

We believe collective worship should:

- -Provide children with opportunities for discussion and reflection
- -Explore the school's vision and values, making connections to how we live our lives.
- Provides regular opportunities for our school community to come together to share ideas, beliefs, opinions and celebrate achievements
- -Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer and reflection.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

### **Our Values**

We believe that teaching children values improves pupils' self-esteem, improves their behaviour and raises standards of learning even higher. There are 6

values which we teach and which drive the heartbeat of our Federation and enable us to, not only acquire knowledge, but enable us to flourish. Each half term we focus on one of our values during our daily worship and teachers also explicitly teach the half term's value

in PSHE lessons. Wherever possible the value is taught and evidenced in other areas of the curriculum. Most importantly, adults across the

Federation ensure that we are role-models for each of the values.

**Autumn 1- Respect –** This means valuing and celebrating our differences, being kind to one another, and following Jesus' teachings to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves.

**Autumn 2- Hopefulness –** We approach all that we do with a hopeful 'can-do' mind-set.

**Spring 1- Kindness –** This means being kind, caring and thoughtful in everything we do, being tolerant and sensitive to others, and loving our neighbour as ourselves.

**Spring 2- Courage** – This means being brave and confident in standing up for ourselves and others. Aiming high and being positive towards our learning

even when things can appear tricky.

**Summer 1- Integrity –** This is the quality of acting honestly and honourably - no matter who's watching!

**Summer 2-Curiosity** – We trust that our curiosity and faith will lead us to new adventures and opportunities and seek out these chances in life.



## **Organisation**

All acts of worship have a Bible story or Bible passage at their heart. Key ideas and key teaching from Christianity are always the focus. The intention is that the ideas should be developed with this in mind. Links are made to ensure that our core school values are reflected in every Collective Worship.

A structured approach is taken in order to maintain a regularity and familiarity both for those leading the worship and for the school community participating in it. It is familiar to all those who lead worship including representatives of our local church who assist in leading worship. The framework follows a 3 part structure:

#### Windows-



Windows are for looking out onto the world and becoming aware of its wonders, both the 'wows' and 'ows'; things that are 'awe-full' and make us wonder and be grateful and things that are 'awful' and make us wonder and ask questions.

The whole curriculum and life itself are full of opportunities to recognise this sensitively.

Exploring the oceans and the relationship with us.

## Mirrors-



Mirrors are for looking into and reflecting, alone and together, to see things more clearly, for thinking and asking important questions learning from our own and each other's responses. In schools we must allow time for this for individual and group reflection and sharing of perspectives. Some subjects and times allow for this specifically, such as religious education and collective worship but in all subjects, there will be opportunities, unexpected or planned, when things just 'crop up'. Handled sensitively, it is possible to make the most of all these times, if there is ongoing deliberate and corporate staff and pupil support.

## **Doors-**



Doors are for looking through in order to then act or express this in some way in response; for moving on, making choices, and doing something creative, active, and purposeful in response. This can simply be done through a change in attitude or behavior or thinking. It can also be expressed powerfully through music or art or drama or dance and through some form of social action or specific acts of giving.

Collective worship is led by not only teachers but by children, church leaders and occasionally external organisations.

<u>Monday-</u> Led by Head teacher on alternate weeks across the federation. This worship focuses on current events using the resources Picture News.

<u>Monday –</u> When not being led by the headteacher, worship is led by a member of the SLT. This focuses on 'Windows'

**Tuesday-** Led by the Deputy Head Teacher focusing on 'Mirrors'.

Wednesday – Led by a Class Teacher focusing on 'Doors'.

**Thursday-** Led by our Music Specialist focusing on 'Songs of praise'.

<u>Friday</u> – Led by the Deputy Headteacher focusing on celebrations, achievements and aspirations going forward.

## **Right of withdrawal**

Although worship is a central part in our school life, parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from this school activity. Any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

## **Worship Council**

Worship Council, we feel, are an integral part of our school and are ambassadors for upholding our School Values.

They are courageous advocates who truly want to see the school thrive in all areas. The children within Worship Council strive to be good role models for all in our school and in our wider community.

Children regularly meet to discuss ways to improve our school for everyone, including planning and holding whole school worships, auditing, monitoring and ensuring classroom reflection areas are well maintained.