

Collective Worship Policy



The Federation of Antrobus St Mark's and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary Schools

'Love one another, as I have loved you' John 13:34

This policy sets out the responsibilities that the Federation of Antrobus and Great Budworth Primary Schools has with regards to Collective Worship.

Our historic schools are nestled in the Cheshire countryside, founded upon the principles of the Church of England, to serve the community, with Christian values at the heart of all we do. We offer pupils a caring, nurturing environment, where we endeavour to inspire and develop each unique child to reach their full potential, encouraging faith, hope and love of God. Our diverse and creative curriculum ensures a love of the world around us, a love of learning and a love of one another.

***'Love one another, as I have loved you.'* John 13 v 34**

a) ENTITLEMENT

At The Federation of Antrobus St Mark's and Great Budworth C/E Primary Schools, both schools worship together at least four times a week.

Children learn simple prayers and responses, which are used as part of our Collective Worship.

The Vicar Rev Alec Brown from St Mark's and St Mary's leads the whole school Collective Worship each Monday alternating between the two schools.

We visit St Mark's and St Mary's regularly across the year for events such as welcome service, harvest, Christingle, Christmas and Easter.

These services are led by the Vicar, Staff and children, for the children and families who join us for our church services.

Although our school is Church of England, we feel that the worship in the school is appropriate to all Christians. Parents and friends are invited to join us in church and for special class workshops. At Great Budworth every Friday is family worship where parents are invited into school to join us.

b) THE AIMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

At The Federation of Antrobus St Mark's and Great Budworth C/E Primary Schools, we aim to:

- To support the growth of thankfulness, trust, nurturing and nourishing of faith, shining and developing wisdom.
- Provide an act of Collective Worship for every child every day.
- Provide opportunities for spiritual and moral development.
- Enable everyone to celebrate the whole life of the school in the presence of God.
- Allow pupils to become familiar with a variety of worship in the Anglican tradition, according to their development stages.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to address God directly.
- Encourage pupils to learn more about the Christian faith.
- Nurture a concern for the wider world.
- Encourage reflection on pupils' own experiences and beliefs.

c) LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

All schools are required to provide an act of worship each day for each pupil; unless parents have stated that their child should be withdrawn.

The whole school does not need to meet together, but may meet in classes or groups. On Tuesdays when we have Forest School, our pupils have collective worship in their classrooms led by the class teacher.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children; however, such children **will** miss a valuable part of our school's life and sharing of corporate experiences.

Teachers too have the right to decline to lead worship, but this will normally have been explored when staff were appointed.

d) RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The governing board, after consultation with the Head Teacher, is responsible for seeing that the character of the school is reflected in the worship.

The foundation governors have responsibility for seeing that the character of the school is reflected in the worship.

The Diocesan Guidelines for collective Worship state:

'Church of England schools are required to hold a daily act of collective worship which is consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England. Opportunities should therefore be provided for pupils to offer worship to God, through Jesus Christ, without losing sight of either the different starting points of each of the pupils, or the need for the act of worship to take account of the developmental ages of the pupils'

e) CURRICULUM TIME

The act of worship is not included as part of the allocation for curriculum time.

On special occasions such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter we hold our act of worship in St Mark's or St Mary's Church, but this again, is not counted as curriculum time.

f) COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Where collective worship and Religious Education are conducted in accordance with the Trust of Deed, any complaints from parents should be addressed to the Governors. In the case of appeals, these should be taken up by the Diocese.

g) PLANNING AND THE CONTENT OF OUR WORSHIP

In planning the worship of our school, we provide opportunity for:

- Exploration of a focus.
- Reflection.
- Celebration
- Pupil participation.

All the content that is explored within our times of collective worship will provide opportunities for supporting the growth of thankfulness, trust, nurturing and nourishing of faith, shining and developing wisdom.

This will generally, but not exclusively, follow the following structure:

Antrobus St Mark's CE Primary School

Cycle	Aut 1	Aut 2	Spr 1	Spr 2	Sum 1	Sum 2
A	Thankfulness	Trust	Perseverance	Justice	Service	Truthfulness
B	Generosity	Compassion	Courage	Forgiveness	Friendships	Respect

Great Budworth CE Primary School

Cycle	Aut 1	Aut 2	Spr 1	Spr 2	Sum 1	Sum 2
A	Words of Jesus	Advent & Christmas	People Jesus met	Holy Week & Easter	Parables of Jesus	Miracles of Jesus
B	Thankfulness	Joy	Dignity	Forgiveness	Wisdom	Trust

When planning for collective worship, the collective worship lead needs to be informed of what the topic (story, Biblical character) of the collective worship will be.

Most of the time, the topic for a collective worship will be agreed upon by the leader of the collective worship and the collective worship lead in advanced following the roots and fruits worship scheme to support. Sometimes, people leading collective worship will be asked to discuss a particular topic by the collective worship lead if there is a themed week or day. This should be followed.

h) OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR THIS MAY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH:

- Developing a sense of awe and wonder.
- Celebrating the beauty of living things.

- Searching for meaning.
- Experiencing an awareness of the spiritual dimension, God, self and others.
- Prayer.
- Affirming positive values (e.g. decency, honesty, self-sacrifice, courage, human rights.)
- Being aware of negative behaviour (e.g. cruelty, injustice, exploitation.)
- Exploring right and wrong.
- Reflecting on broader and more lasting concerns.
- Valuing things of worth.
- Creating an atmosphere of reverence and mystery.
- Giving thanks.
- Experiencing a caring and compassionate community.
- Exploring emotions, thoughts and ideas.
- Promoting a sense of friendship, acceptance and unity.
- Encouraging responsibility for making personal decision.
- Celebrating achievements and special occasions.
- Sharing and experiencing similarities and differences.

This may incorporate the following elements:

Adults may lead through:	Children may participate by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prayer ● Reflection ● Discussion ● Silence ● Song/music ● Drama ● Pictures ● Poetry ● Story ● Artefacts ● Special people/visitors ● Children’s work and achievements ● Sacred writing ● Video/media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Planning ● Acting ● Singing ● Leading ● Dancing ● Listening ● Thinking ● Praying ● Questioning ● Answering ● Reading
<p>The following would not be appropriate approaches to leading collective worship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Watching long videos (anything over 3 minutes). ● Simply reading a passage from the Bible or a story without any unpacking of the story (focus for collective worship can be found in section G). 	

i) MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship, is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors.

All who deliver worship will be observed annually. This process supports the school’s self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body.

Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in weekly class worship, reflections from collective worships, school council, ethos committee.

All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice. Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop.

These are shared with our worship lead and SLT and during full governing body meetings and play and integral part in developing the spiritual growth of the school.

Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of Chester (SIAMS).

Date of Policy: **September 2024**

Chair of Govs: **Lisa Rigby**

Head of School Great Budworth: **Rachel Corradine**

Executive Headteacher across the Federation of Antrobus St Mark's and Great Budworth CE Primary Schools: **Rhian Perry**

