

TANKERSLEY C of E (A) PRIMARY SCHOOL

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



***“A love of learning in a Christian environment”***

We aim high and have self-belief  
We have community spirit  
We are enterprising  
We have enquiring minds  
We are respectful

**Tankersley St. Peter's C of E (A) Primary School**  
**Policy for Collective Worship.**

Collective worship is a time where we come together as a community to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school and our mission statement, *'Developing a love of learning in a Christian environment' as well as supporting our school aims which are aiming high and Self-belief, Community spirit, Enterprise, Enquiry and Respect.*

The contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visited are valued highly.

**Aims of Collective Worship.**

- 1) To help each child look at his/her relationship with God, with others, with the world and with the church.
- 2) To encourage each child to explore his/her own spirituality.
- 3) To further each child's emotional, cultural and moral development.
- 4) To develop each child's sense of awe and wonder.
- 5) To promote a sense of togetherness, belonging and shared values within the school family.
- 6) To develop a sense of worth
- 7) To reflect elements of Anglican Liturgy within our school acts of worship.

**Content and elements of Collective Worship**

Themes for our Collective Worship at Tankersley reflect Christian beliefs, values and attitudes. They are presented in a way that is relevant to the pupils' ages, aptitudes, backgrounds and experiences. The themes for Collective worship are derived from the **ROOTS AND FRUITS themed book of Christian values** (with a key value as a focus for the term e.g. Generosity, Trust, Thankfulness etc)

These values are embodied in the commandment that Jesus gave:

John 13:34-35

*"..Love one another. As I have loved you. So you must love one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples."*

The main Christian festivals and other days in the liturgical year are included in the themes e.g. *Harvest* etc.

Collective Worship in our school reflects traditions of worship in the Christian Church, containing elements of praise, prayer, teaching, thanks and participation  
Much of the teaching aspect is achieved through story, poetry, drama, art, events in the news or aspects of daily life – at home and at school. Individual acts of Collective worship usually contain a time for hymns/songs, music and prayer.

**Prayer and reflection are key parts of our worship** may include formal prayers, children's own prayers or silent reflection. These may focus on thanks and praise, prayers for ourselves and/or prayers for others, and saying sorry. Prayers are also shared in class at key points in the school day

**There is an altar table at the front containing a Bible, candle and a cross. At the beginning of the whole school acts of worship the candle is lit to represent the presence of God. This is blown out at the end to represent our prayers going back to God.**

**The colour of the cloth on the altar is changed to represent the time in the liturgical year.**

For the main celebrations (Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost) Collective Worship complements work done in the classroom.

### **Pupil involvement**

We encourage pupil involvement and participation in all acts of worship, both within the act of worship but also taking on roles and responsibilities in preparation and delivery.

We have a **worship council** of pupils from Year 6 who meet regularly to lead and oversee the worship in school and provide a strong pupil voice within our worshipping community.

Pupils are asked to volunteer to take a role to illustrate and support the teaching element of an act of worship. They may be prepared prior to an act of worship to deliver a piece of drama or say prayers.

Our worship councillors operate the power point and music for songs and formally introduce the act of worship and lead prayers. These pupils will also record the theme of that day's act of worship in a book which is kept in the hall.

All the children participate in class presentations as part of our Harvest and Easter worship Services. Each class from year one upwards is represented in giving the readings as part of our Christmas and Easter services.

Year 6 pupils actively participate in the Leaver's Service at the end of the school year. A prayer labyrinth is also organised by the 'Hand to Mouth' Christian group during the Summer term.

Pupils also participate in daily class prayers at key points in the school day.

### **Organisation of Collective Worship.**

Every day **all pupils in school are involved in acts of Collective Worship**. Although there is not a formal act of worship in the Nursery, children do listen to stories with a moral, sing and say prayers every day. Nursery children are involved in the school Collective Worship during the half term before starting school when they make visits to the reception class.

Acts of worship are led by the Senior leadership team and members of teaching staff.

Two Mondays each month are led by Canon Hale and visiting speakers from different organisations, the Church, members of the community are also invited to come and speak on a regular basis.

### **Our current pattern of worship is as follows:**

**Monday:** Whole school worship led by Canon Hale or the SLT linked to whole school ethos and/or theme of the half term from Roots and Fruits

**Tuesday:** Key Stage two act of worship led by Key Stage 2 staff on a rota basis linked to Roots and Fruits half termly theme. Key Stage One pupils have a short time of prayer and reflection in their own classes on this day

**Wednesday:** Whole school hymn and singing assembly, with a prayer and reflection time, led by Mrs Cooper and members of staff on a rota basis. / This may alternate with an assembly linked to our Global & International School partnership work which supports pupils understanding of other cultures and religions – we are a lead school in this area.

**Thursday:** Key Stage One worship act of worship led by the Key Stage One and EYFS Foundation stage teachers on a rota basis. Key Stage Two pupils have a short time of prayer and reflection in their own classes.

**Friday:** Whole school Sparkle and Shine worship led by Miss Johnston. In this act of worship pupil achievements are celebrated and sense of worth developed. Teachers nominate two pupils who have done something worthy of celebrating; this might be linked to behaviour or their work or something that has contributed positively to school life. On planned occasions a Sparkle and Share worship is held to celebrate learning in a key subject area as part of our Subject on the Spotlight.

### **Links with St Peter's Church**

At Tankersley we have firm links with St Peter's Church and school services are held there four times a year: Harvest, Christmas and Easter and in the Summer, the Leavers' service is held in church. Members of the congregation at St Peters' are always welcome and parents are also invited to join us.

### **Canon Hale leads Collective Worship every 2 weeks in school linked to a Christian / Biblical theme.**

Members of the congregation have also been involved in offering opportunities for reflection and spiritual development for the pupils by helping to run prayer labyrinths alongside visitors who we have invited into school.

### **Resources/Settings**

We recognise the importance of making collective worship different to the rest of the school day. We aim to provide a different setting within familiar surroundings by using music and a focus e.g. Cross and candle on Altar table.

### **Legal Requirements**

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parent wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher.

### **Equal opportunities and Special Needs**

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to and be welcomed in our acts of collective worship. Where necessary, pupils will be supported to remove any barriers that could prevent them from accessing and participating fully in an act of worship.

### **Record keeping, Evaluation and monitoring**

**A file is kept recording the details of each act of worship.** This is completed by the Year 6 pupils on the rota for the half term but should be checked by the member of staff leading. There is also a space for evaluations to be recorded here.

Updated September 2019 – A. Townsend (Collective Worship Lead)

Next review September 2020