



**Stogursey C of E  
Primary School &  
Pre-school**



**“Grow in the Grace and Knowledge”**

**2 Peter 3:18**

# **Collective Worship Policy**

**Approved by: Local  
Governance Committee**

**Date: 1.6.2021**

**Last reviewed on:** Summer 2025- no changes

**Next review due by:** Autumn 2026

# Policy Statement

St Peter, in his second epistle, said for followers of Christ to 'Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ'. We think this is a very apt summary of what our purpose is as a community and it is now our school motto.

"Grow in the Grace and Knowledge"

Our vision for the school in its simplest form is to grow and nurture everyone who gets involved with us both adults and children alike.

Our 4 aims by 2025 are:

1. Broaden outlooks and experiences
2. Nurture personal growth for life
3. Everyone to make a personal contribution to our school
4. Find the joy in learning.

We believe that in order to achieve these aims, we should gain in knowledge and develop a good character. As a church school, we believe that being on a mission to develop and grow in grace is a good way to do this.

At Stogursey C of E Primary School the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our vision.

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which are part of the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

## Christian Values Education

We use the Christian Values in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and spiritually so that their self esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a Christian and common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought. We explore a range of Christian Values but quite often, our 6 focus values are mentioned or explored in detail. These values are: care, faith, hope, kindness, peace and love.

## Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), 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 parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher.

## The Intent of our Collective Worship Programme

First and foremost, we want Collective Worship to have a positive impact on all children and adults. Our intent for the school to live up to its foundation as a Church school, by enabling pupils and adults to flourish through the collective worship being offered at the school. Our intentions in this regard are set out below. We want children to know:

- Worship is invitational and inclusive
- Prayer is a natural part of what we do and not forced
- The value of stillness and reflection and articulate its use in their own lives in and out of school
- That our ‘windows, mirrors, doors’ approach to worship can be used in everyday life and articulate experiencing this away from school
- That our worship inspires them to action and give examples of this
- Worship is creative, exciting and definitely inspiring!
- More about the Christian traditions in the Church including festivals as well as other festivals that reflect the diversity of people in the world
- How to give thoughtful, respectful responses in Collective Worship
- The importance of Communion in Christian Worship
- The teachings of Jesus
- The meanings of different elements of worship including the trinitarian nature of God
- Worship involves our whole community
- Worship inspires children to become ‘agents of change’
- Prayer can be spontaneous and unplanned yet impactful
- Our partnerships with the local community of worshippers and clergy enhance what happens in and out of school.

## Codifying the Collective Worship

We praise God through singing hymns both traditional and modern at an opportune moment in a session. The phases of worship are set out below using our ‘windows, mirrors and doors’ approach. Fruits from the roots is a follow up task where children can become agents of change themselves if they have been inspired to do so by the worship. The table below codifies a typical session of Collective Worship.

Aspect	We do...	So that...
Gathering	Set the scene for the worship, making it invitational and inclusive.	All members of our community may take part.
Windows	A task requiring all to ‘look out’ into the world.	We think about the world and God’s people.
Mirrors	A task that involves looking within at the self.	We think deeply about our own lives and our behaviours and character.
Doors	Sending out/ completing the worship	The worship ends appropriately.
‘Fruits from the roots’	Either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A task set to do over the week</li> <li>● A task for children to use and enhance the spiritual areas of the school</li> <li>● Children can take action through the Smart School Council</li> </ul>	Children can be ‘agents of change’ and act on whatever has inspired them in the worship.

## **Organisation**

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

### Monday

Whole school worship led by the Headteacher, assisted by the Collective Worship Crew or Open the book team.

### Tuesday

Whole school hymn and singing practice, with prayer/reflection time, led by members of staff.

### Wednesday

Whole school worship led by Rev Alison.

### Thursday

Worship is led in classes by teachers.

### Friday

Most Fridays we have celebration assembly led by the Head and different pupil leadership teams from across the school.

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship. We aim to include the children in the planning and delivery of our Collective Worship, wherever possible

The worship should last approximately 20 minutes.

## Planning, Content and Detail

We follow the 'Roots and Fruits' scheme and each half term has a value focus. The themes for Monday's collective worship reflect our Values focus for that week, the Church calendar, our school ethos and current events. The worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music which builds their cultural capital knowledge of music. The scheme's approach varies in terms of content and examples include Bible Stories, dramatic re-enactments, discussions, appreciating artwork as well as singing.



### **Collective Worship Standard Operating Procedure**

<b>Who?</b>	All adults to attend
<b>Methods?</b>	Between 9am and 9.30am daily except Friday (3pm-3.15pm)
<b>Procedure</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Children enter silently and with reverence. Adults should be modelling this behaviour.</li><li>2. Introduction, "Good morning everyone." Followed by a response. "Good morning (name)" You- "The Lord is here." Response by whole school, " His spirit is with us."</li><li>3. Carry out the worship including a hymn. Staff need to be modelling singing and joining in.</li><li>4. Finish with a moment of reflection and a suitable prayer. We usually preface it with, "If you want to make the prayer your own then say the Amen at the end. If you're not praying then please sit quietly for those who are praying. Hands together, eyes closed..."</li><li>5. Bookend the worship with the following- "Let's go and grow...in the Grace and Knowledge" Complete the worship with the Grace prayer- "The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and for evermore. Amen."</li><li>6. File out in silence. Again, staff need to be modelling this.</li></ol>

Tuesdays' singing practice aims to develop the children's understanding of new songs and hymns as well as learning them. The session ends with a time for reflection or a prayer before messages are given. The children leave in the same way as before.

Wednesday and Thursday worship takes many forms. Most usual is that Rev Nicky Morgan or a staff member leads this worship, continuing the weekly theme from Monday.

The Celebration Assembly on Friday celebrates the children's achievements. Academic and enrichment success is celebrated. Also, recognition is given to those children being agents of change particularly if they did this independently without prompting by an adult.

### **Prayer and Reflection**

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including singing. A range of prayers is used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by either an adult or child in the hall. Prayers are also said at the end of the school day. There are small Reflective Areas around the school where the values are shared. Children can use these spaces if they need a moment to reflect during the school day. They can add their own prayer or thoughts to these areas.

### **Other Faiths**

At Stogursey CE Primary our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values and we are also committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. The class- led acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the curriculum requirements.

### **Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring**

A file is kept, recording the plan of Collective worship. This is also shared with the local church. Evaluations will also be recorded. The 'Collective Worship Crew' who sometimes help to lead worship also carry out monitoring activities.

### **Training in Collective Worship**

Opportunities are given to those holding or assisting with worship. This includes:

- Diocesan courses
- Cascade training by the RE lead
- Updates
- Meetings with local clergy
- Planning/ rehearsals for the Collective Worship Crew

### **Visits and visitors**

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge. St Andrews Church is a frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' Services.

### **Parents**

Children may be withdrawn from R.E. lessons at the wish of their parents. The Headteacher will ensure that suitable provision is made for such pupils.

### **Equal Opportunities and special needs issues**

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of R.E. At each Key Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.