



In the knowledge that  
we are loved, we are rooted  
by our Christian values.

**Brill Church of England School**

### **Collective Worship Policy**

Policy Reviewed	Sept 2023
Policy Owner	L.White
Signed Headteacher	L.White
Review date	Sept 2024

Brill Church of England School is an inclusive, creative community which builds understanding, respect and empathy in our children. Pupils, staff and parents of all faiths (or none) are welcome. Our school is a Christian faith community which recognises religious, cultural and ethnic diversity and encourages dialogue and understanding. We believe that we can all learn from each other and that collective worship is an educational entitlement for all. In worship we create the opportunity to explore the place of faith in each of our lives, and in the community in which we live. This worship can occur at various times of day and with a mixture of grouping of pupils. In regular acts of formal worship there is the opportunity to offer thanksgiving and praise to God through a range of liturgical patterns. We aim to embed of Christian vision: With the Wind in Our Sails, 'We shall live in all its fullness' John 10:10 through the daily act of worship.

### **Legal Requirements**

"Worship will be - appropriate to the age, aptitude and family backgrounds of pupils, - provided in a variety of settings, groupings and timings, with a variety of leaders." (DFES)  
Our daily Act of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Christian character of our school as part of the Oxford Diocese.

### **Aims of Collective Worship**

There are three fundamental principles underlying the provision of our acts of Collective Worship.

These principles are:

1. Collective worship contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
2. Collective worship is inclusive in nature.
3. Collective worship is Educational.

### **Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural**

Acts of collective worship will aim to:

- Worship God.
- Nurture reflection, meditation and prayer.
- Inspire students to consider the needs of others through charitable service and working for social justice, through examples of practical Christianity.
- Provide pupils with opportunities to explore the spiritual dimension of their lives through music, images and words.
- Provide a sense of occasion that separates them from the rest of the school day.
- Foster an appreciation of the natural created world and our shared responsibilities for maintaining it.
- Develop clear partnerships between worship in the school and the wider community.

## Inclusive

Our understanding of Christianity is that it is an inclusive faith which mirrors the attitude of Christ in the Gospels. Brill Church of England School welcomes students and staff of all faiths, and none.

Through their Christian character our acts of collective worship will:

- Be invitational, inclusive and inspiring.
- Recognise and celebrate the diversity of cultures, lifestyles and faiths which exist in our school and local community.
- Have an atmosphere in which everyone feels valued and safe.
- Be appropriate for every student to attend.
- Focus on issues and experiences which are relevant to the pupils.
- Foster active roles for pupils, parents and members of the local community - in preparation, participation and leadership.

## Worship will reflect aspects of the curriculum

- Nurture spiritual growth;
- Enable participants to consider moral questions in a Christian context;
- Enhance social understanding and encourage responses to issues through courageous advocacy;
- Give participants a chance to reflect on the place and importance of faith in the lives of people today;
- Encourage participants to explore beliefs drawn from their own cultural heritage;
- Reflect the teachings of Jesus and a trinitarian theology.

## Personnel responsible for worship

The head teacher is the worship coordinator and plans the collective worship values and themes. Guidance on developing the values will also be given.

## Personnel involved in leading worship, including learners

All teachers are involved in leading worship. Worship is also led by children in the opening and closing prayers, engagement through worship and involvement in setting up worship with the pupil Collective Worship leadership group.

Timetabling of acts of worship, including use of local church and groupings of pupils. There is a daily act of collective worship. In reception class this is initially class based.

## Timetable

Day	Act of worship	Led by
Monday	Whole school value/theme	Headteacher
Tuesday	Church assembly	Gemma Beesley
Wednesday	Outdoor worship	Class teacher
Thursday	Singing	Music lead
Friday	Celebration- Star of the week	Rota of teaching staff

## Planning of worship, including its relationship to our core values

Our values are:

Honesty, Hope, Compassion, Courage and Love

Each month reflects a new value. The values are primarily our school Christian values. Through worship, links are made to Bible stories and for each value the children learn words from the Bible and hear a key story from the Bible.

Compassion	"Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." Colossians 3.12
Hope	"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29.11
Honesty	"Tell the truth to each other" Zechariah 6.16
Love	"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19
Courage	"Be strong and courageous and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God is with you." Chronicles 28:20

At the beginning of each month, the children will discuss the value in class to help deepen their understanding of how this can relate to life in school and in the wider world. All worship includes a welcome, some learning and opportunities to reflect and respond.

### Monitoring and evaluation procedures

Collective worship is monitored by staff, children and Governors with a reflective journal. The Journal is very helpful in appreciating the impact of worship and pupils' reflections on worship. The Governors and headteacher take account of the SIAMs requirements and consider these through their termly meetings. Our worship is evaluated against these criteria and improvements identified.

### Opportunities for worship/prayer throughout the day

Each year the school takes part in a 'Prayer Space' week held in school. The reflective activities are based around a theme and led by the Church community.

### Rights of withdrawal

The right of withdrawal was established in the Education Act 1944, re-enacted in the Education Reform Act 1988.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from collective worship. Parents are asked to discuss the matter with the Head teacher in the first instance.

If a parent asks for their child to be wholly or partly excused from attending collective worship, then the school must comply unless the request is withdrawn. The School remains responsible for the supervision of any student withdrawn from collective worship, unless the student is lawfully taking part in collective worship elsewhere.

**Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The Governing Body will review this policy at least every two years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.