

Trull CE VA Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10

DATE AGREED January 2026	POLICIES THAT LINK TO THIS POLICY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RE Policy• Visitor Protocol
TO BE REVIEWED January 2027	

Trull CE VA Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This policy should be taken and used as part of Trull Church of England Primary School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, instrument of government aims and values as a Church of England school.

At Trull C of E VA Primary School, we believe that communication is a basic human right and underpins a child's learning. We use a wide range of communication tools including : speech, facial expressions, objects of reference, photographs, signing and symbols to ensure that all children are given an inclusive and consistent approach to their learning.

Trull Primary School is a Church of England Voluntary Aided School. In this respect our Act of Worship complies with the requirements of the Trust Deed to worship in accordance with the principle of the Church of England. The policy is consistent with the main aims of the school as expressed in the Prospectus and Mission Statement and has been adopted by the Governing Body, in consultation with the Head teacher and teaching staff.

Mission Statement

We at Trull Church of England Voluntary Aided School seek to help children achieve their full potential, by encouraging confidence, the development of self-esteem and a love of learning. As a Church School we aim to develop Christian values, and foster a respect for other people and their beliefs.

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"

John 10:10

In the preparation of this policy due consideration was given to the following:

- * Religious Education and Collective Worship Circular 1/94.
- * Church School Leadership – a handbook for teachers in Church of England Schools.
- * Framework for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools (SIAMs).

1. Rationale

Collective Worship fulfils an important function in the school day. It provides an opportunity for spiritual and moral development, through praise to God and reflecting on His presence in our lives.

2. Aims

Collective Worship in our school is based on developing the values and qualities we consider important:

- To affirm the presence of God through celebration and reflection.
- To provide a moment of calm amongst the hustle and bustle of the day. Where time can be given to the consideration of tolerance, developing relationships and cooperation.

3. Objectives

- i. To provide opportunities to develop our own responses to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of life. 3
- ii. To learn about the Christian traditions upon which our society is based and to contribute to each pupil's Religious Education.
- iii. To encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all pupils.
- iv. To provide opportunities for celebration and praise.
- v. To acknowledge the value of time given for quiet reflection.
- vi. To show how God has worked through the lives of ordinary people in the past and is relevant in our lives today.
- vii. To provide opportunity to celebrate achievements in recognition of personal 'worth-ship'.
- viii. To foster a sense of group identity, whether class, key stage group or whole school.
- ix. To ensure that our Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of our pupils.
- x. To use the vehicle of Collective Worship to promote and reinforce positive attitudes in our school, in behaviour and in appreciation of the environment.

4. Principles of the Act of Collective Worship

- a. Collective Worship will take place each day. Collective Worship will encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship, or through listening to and joining in with the Worship offered.
- b. The worship planned will be relevant, meaningful and inclusive of all who attend and will allow for a variety of responses from awareness to respect and reverence.
- c. The majority of Acts of Collective Worship will be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- d. It will appeal to the imaginative and the reflective side of learning as well as the acquisition of knowledge.
- e. During changes to the school timetable, for example due to Coronavirus, Collective Worship will take place in classrooms. Where possible, Collective Worship will be shared virtually, however some Collective Worship will take place solely within classrooms.

5. Planning of the Programme

- a. The programme will be planned in advance and will be overseen by the RE Coordinator.
- b. Worship will be planned to take account of the major festivals of the Church year and when appropriate with the curriculum plan of the school year.
- c. A sense of occasion will be created, with appropriate thought given to the setting available. Lighting three candles and saying 'As we light these candles, we ask God the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit, to light our path' is used to create a shared focus and sense of meaning to the Collective Worship. A table covered with a cloth, candle and wooden cross are used daily. Children are expected to enter and leave quietly and smartly.

- d. The Act of Collective Worship will last approximately 20 minutes.
- e. A variety of approaches will be used in order to evoke feelings of awe, wonder, mystery, peace, praise and thanksgiving.
- f. Not all teaching members of staff are involved in the taking of Collective Worship.
- g. New hymns/songs are practised and conducted by a member of staff in preparation for Collective Worship.
- h. Elements used in the worship may include listening to and making music, singing (when allowed), listening to stories from the Bible or everyday events, use of artefacts and drama.
- i. The Worship will have clear focus and will often involve pupil participation.
- j. The leader will clarify the distinctiveness between 'assembly' and 'Collective Worship'.
- k. Opportunity will be provided for prayer or a quiet time for reflection.
- l. Collective Worship will also be held in our Church – All Saints, Trull (when allowed).
- m. Parents will be invited to attend some sharing assemblies, our Carol Service at Church and Acts of Collective Worship led by our Vicar and Child & Family Worker in school or church (when allowed).
- n. Our aim is to provide equal opportunities for all children and adults at Trull School. Children will experience learning about other cultures and will be involved in projects that teach them to value all people. Our Acts of Collective Worship will reflect the Christian view that every person is valuable.
- o. Opportunities for prayer are provided at other times of the day, e.g. after lunch and at individual class prayer times.

6. Parental Right of Withdrawal

The Education reform Act 1988 – DFE Circular 1/94 paragraphs 68 and 69, make provision for pupils who wish to withdraw from Collective Worship. It is hoped, however, that the worship in our school is of a kind that includes everyone.

7. Responsibilities

- The governor responsible for Collective Worship in our school is the Reverend Andy Wadsworth. He participates regularly in the planning and implementing of Acts of Worship in partnership with the Child & Family Worker attached to the Church.
- The Collective Worship co-ordinator is responsible for updating the Collective Worship Policy.

8. Role of Collective Worship Co-ordinator

- i. The Head teacher has arranged the weekly structure for worship, balance of whole school / key stage / class (see Appendix A).
- ii. Whole staff training is in line with the school development plan.
- iii. New staff are encouraged to observe Acts of Collective Worship before starting on their own.

- iv. To see that there are opportunities for staff to evaluate their Acts of Collective Worship with each other. Monitoring and self-evaluation is carried out by staff and also by the Worship Leader.
- v. To be involved in the organisation of worship linked to the major festivals of the Church year. This is supported by key celebrations at school and church.

- vi. To demonstrate our commitment to the wider community by organising assemblies linked with, e.g. Open Door, RAFT, ActionAid and our sponsored child, David. Last year, our Harvest donations were collected by Open Door.
- vii. To monitor, in consultation with other staff, the annual budget for collective worship.

- viii. Resources material is held in the Religious Education resources area. Some resource boxes are kept by class teachers.
- ix. A program for Wednesday Collective Worship is written by Rev. Andy Wadsworth and shared with the RE Lead.

10. Conclusion

Collective Worship is a time when staff and pupils may come together, physically or virtually, to express praise and thanksgiving to God, to celebrate achievements and to develop awareness and concern for the need of others in our community and in the wider world. We share and uphold our School Christian Values of Respect, Kindness and Forgiveness.

Signed by:

Luke Bottomley

13.1.26

Headteacher

Date:

Ryszard
Rusinek

13.1.26

Chair of governors

Date:

APPENDIX A

WEEKLY STRUCTURE FOR WORSHIP (outside of Coronavirus restrictions)

DAY	ORGANISATION	LEADER
MONDAY	Whole School – in the School Hall	Head teacher
TUESDAY	Collective Worship – in the School Hall	Class Teachers
WEDNESDAY	Whole School – in All Saints' Church	Reverend Andy Wadsworth / Libby Cunningham, Children and Families Worker
THURSDAY	Whole School in the School Hall - Singing Collective Worship	Music Co-ordinator And Deputy Head teacher
FRIDAY	Whole School – in Hall	Head teacher

- Infants: The KS1 Nativity Service is held in the school hall with family, friends and governors invited.
- Juniors: KS2 hold a Carol Service and a Leaver's Service in the Church each year. Family, friends and governors are invited to attend. Year 6 attend a Leaver's Service and Pilgrim Day at Wells' Cathedral/Taunton Minster in the Summer Term.
- Whole school Harvest, Christmas and Easter Services are held in Church. These are organised by KS2 classes and the Church.
- Worship Through Play events are held each year.
- The Forest Church Club meets in school and is led by the RE Lead and supported by the School Chaplain This group meets during the lunch hour during term time.
- Children at school are also invited to join other Church based clubs and activities outside of the school day.

**TRULL CHURCH OF ENGLAND VA PRIMARY SCHOOL
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP OBSERVATION SHEET**

Name of Leader:		Date:
CONTENT		
Was the theme made clear?		
Was there a focus to look at & was it used?		
Was the content appropriate for the age range?		
Did the content contribute to the spiritual development of the children?		
Were the needs of all the children addressed?		
Was there an opportunity for children to participate?		
Was there an opportunity for the children to reflect on what was being talked about?		
Was it worship with opportunity to worship God?		
Was it distinctly Christian? Was it right for a Church School?		
DELIVERY		
Did the leader hold the children’s attention?		
Did the leader check the children’s understanding or explain things well for them?		
Were resources and visual aids used effectively?		
Did the leader create a sense of Worship?		
Did the leader make appropriate use of his/her voice? (Volume, inflection, variation, etc)		
SUMMARY COMMENTS:		

Guidelines for Visitors leading Collective Worship at Trull C.E.V.A Primary School

Attached is a copy of our Collective Worship Policy which lays out how we worship here at Trull Primary School.

The following is designed to help you present your Assembly / Act of Collective Worship.

As a Church school we aim to communicate to children and adults alike through the Christian ethos, which is both caring and informative. The nature of our style of worship will at times be joyful in our praise of God and at others provide moments for quiet thought, reflection and/or prayer.

Acts of Collective Worship are usually short, lasting between five and twenty minutes. Children understand things better if they come in 'small parcels'. It is preferable to choose one small area and deal with it well rather than ranging over a large subject.

It is important that any visual aids and writing is large enough to see from the back. Small pictures, tiny writing and small objects will cause the children to start kneeling up to see, and they will soon lose interest in what they cannot see.

Remember that sight-reading is an adult skill. If you are going to teach the children a song or have something for them to read, do help them. Read things with children and always print in lower case letters.

It is hoped that through encouragement children will grow in their response to worship. However, it should be realised that all children are somewhere between being 'passive observers' and 'active participators'.

The school has a framework of themes for assemblies throughout the year. You are welcome to base your assembly on the current theme if you wish and we would recommend that you liaise with the teachers involved with those particular themes. However, if you wish to lead an assembly on another topic this can be a valuable experience in its own right.

We welcome the expertise, knowledge and experiences that visitors from Charitable Organisations have contributed to the religious education of classes within our school. Christian Aid, Action Aid, Barnardos, The Lifeboat Service, and the RSPCA are among those charities that have visited the school in recent years.