



## Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School Worship Policy and Vision Statement



Our long-standing mission is to provide 'Excellent education in a Christian Environment'.

The ethos of Holy Trinity School is built upon love, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Matthew 22:39.

Our vision is for all pupils to achieve their fullest potential in all aspects of their lives. Our curriculum is designed to provide a rich and varied programme of activities and learning experiences to meet the needs, interests and aspirations of all learners, within and beyond the school day. The curriculum develops the ability for our children to flourish and gain a deeper view on life; understanding that children flourish because of diversity and we understand that this happens at different times and speeds. Flourishing enables children to look outwards, self-improve and deepen their knowledge.

We expect that all children will become creative, confident and respectful young adults who approach the next stage of their learning journeys with determination, enthusiasm and an ambitious outlook for their futures.

We believe that it is important that children have a strong awareness of their local community and locality and of whom they are and where they fit in the world. We want children to think about what they will do with what they have been given, thus ensuring they become committed learners (Matthew 25). We believe that successful learning depends on a positive partnership between home school and the wider community.

The School recognises that its purpose is to provide the best possible quality of learning experience and environment for the children in its care.

The staff are committed to developing the children's potential to its full.

The staff are committed to pursuing professional excellence, while aiming to develop their own potential to the full. The School is a valued part of the community.

### **Aims**

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided School our aim is for every child to reach his or her own God-given potential, which potential we believe has been given in order that he/she can contribute full-heartedly and creatively towards a just and caring society. To this end we aim to enable each child to acquire a reasoned set of attitudes and Christian values, namely compassion, courage, creativity, faithfulness, forgiveness, hope, humility, justice, love, peace, thankfulness, trust and truth.

We aim to provide a broad, balanced, well-planned curriculum that is intellectually stimulating, challenging and enjoyable, giving the children opportunities to reach the highest standards of academic, aesthetic, creative and sporting achievement.

We aim to develop lively and enquiring minds, encouraging the children to acquire knowledge, skills, and practical abilities as well as a sense of purpose and enjoyment in using them.

We aim to stimulate and develop the children's use of language and number to enable them to be able to communicate effectively and to enjoy adult life and the world of work.

We aim to develop in the children qualities of mind, body, spirit, feeling, imagination, artistic impression and aesthetic sensitivity.

We aim to enable the children to achieve good health and physical development through physical education.

We aim to develop the children's social skills to enable them to work collaboratively, enjoying confident personal and work relationships.

We aim to maintain high standards of behaviour, dress, courtesy and self-control.

We aim to help children develop a positive self-image and the confidence to manage opportunities to develop their own talents and personalities to live as independent, self-motivated members of our School family.

We aim to encourage a sense of pride and ownership in Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School.

### **Rationale**

The Trust Deed and school vision statement inform the policy and practice of collective worship in Holy Trinity C of E School. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation, values and ethos of the school.

Worship is central to the life and purposes of our school and will reflect the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. This will include belief in God the source of all being and life, belief in Jesus who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection and belief in the Holy Spirit who makes the presence of Jesus known in the world.

### **Aims**

#### **Through Worship, we aim to:**

- enable children and staff to explore and celebrate the differences and diversity found in the variety of forms of worship in the Anglican Christian tradition;
  - lead the school community to the 'threshold of worship' in order for them to make an informed choice about their own involvement and to consider their own personal relationship with Jesus Christ;
  - seek to deepen and widen the experience of those of 'faith' and encourage those of 'no faith' so that they begin to feel for themselves something of what it means to worship;
  - use celebration, silence, stilling, reflection, contemplation, meditation, prayer, song, symbols and imagery as vehicles for worship and spiritual growth;
  - provide opportunities for the whole school community to address God directly through Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit through acknowledging his presence, reflecting upon his character and giving Him praise and honour;
  - use a vocabulary of worship that encourages the whole school community to attend, participate and lead worship;
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- encourage all present to explore their own beliefs and understanding of God within a Christian framework by learning more about the Christian faith and by encountering Christ through worship;
  - raise awareness through reflection of the ultimate questions of life relating to matters of faith;
  - reaffirm, strengthen and practice key Christian values. (e.g. love, peace, compassion, forgiveness, self-giving) and celebrate each unique individual member of the school community as made in the image of God;
  - nurture and encourage respect and care for God's created world by promoting a positive attitude to environmental issues locally, nationally and globally;
  - seek to provide opportunities for spiritual, social and moral development that is characterised by feelings such as awe, wonder, being uplifted, elation, appreciation, gratitude, respect, and reverence;
  - develop a sense of community within the school, the locality, (e.g. local church) and foster the sense of being part of a wider community through the celebration of achievements, festivals and special occasions;
  - foster a concern for the needs of others.

### **Legal Framework**

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. Since this is a church school however, worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of our children's education.

### **Organisation**

All children attend a daily collective act of worship, however the length of time or the grouping of children may vary.

A typical week is as follows: -

#### **Day Time Grouping Leader**

Monday	2.30pm	Whole School	SLT
Tuesday	2.30pm	Whole School Hymn Practice	Head Teacher
Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	Church/Class Worship	
Thursday	2.30pm	Whole School	Rota
Friday	2.30pm	Celebration	SLT

### **Staff Attending Worship**

We believe that it is important for pupils to see the value we attach as a school to worship. One way we hope to achieve this is by staff attending acts of worship alongside the children. **All** staff members attend worship throughout the week and lead sessions regularly. **No intervention work should take place during worship time.** A class worship is undertaken every second Wednesday where the Teacher and Teaching Assistant lead an act of worship to their own class.

### **Withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw pupils from worship. Prospective parents are informed of the importance we attach as a School to worship and Christian belief. We aim to ensure that the values underpinning the education in the School are Christian values. A parent wishing to withdraw a child from the Daily Act of Collective Worship (Education Act 1988) must make a written request to the Headteacher.

(Occasionally small groups of children may not attend whole school worship, but if this is the case the teacher, teaching assistant in charge will involve the pupils in a short act of worship, prayer and reflection.)

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

The Worship Coordinator has overall responsibility for drawing up a timetable of worship for each term and a rota of worship leaders. Each academic year a planner is created which indicates termly and weekly themes. The Worship Coordinators also prepares detailed planning for the introduction of each theme, lists ideas for resources and prepares termly planners for class teachers.

### **Review**

Worship is evaluated and reviewed by staff, pupils and governors.

This policy was created in agreement with staff and governors January 2019.