

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



Policy Formally Approved	February 2023
Policy to be Reviewed	By February 2026

It is the responsibility of the **Full Governors Committee** for approval.

Signed by

Headteacher:Date:.....

Chair of Governors Date

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Fressingfield Church of England Primary School

*Jesus said 'I have come that you may have life in all its fullness'
(John 10:10).*

This policy sets out the school's aims, objectives and strategies for Collective Worship within the school. It will form the basis for the development of the current provision for Collective Worship.

The policy aims to support the staff and governors with responsibility for the teaching of delivery and inclusion of Collective Worship in the school day and to show where external agencies may play a supporting role.

Purpose

At Fressingfield CE Primary School we believe that Collective Worship plays a very important role in the life of our school. It is an opportunity to celebrate all aspects of school life to support our curriculum and to provide an opportunity for stillness and reflection in what is often a very busy, active day for our children.

School Aims

The central aims of Collective Worship at Fressingfield CE Primary School are to:

- provide our children with regular opportunities for stillness and reflection
- promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community and all who belong in it, including the sharing of the gifts and talents of our children.
- help children develop an understanding both of the nature and language of worship
- help children develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others
- support the broader curriculum through the use of art, music, dance, story, drama and other visual and oral means of communication.

The Legal Position

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship must be on a daily basis for all registered pupils. Furthermore, acts of worship "must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, i.e. reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief."

At Fressingfield CE Primary School we have developed a range of themes and topics through which collective worship takes place. Key themes include love, joy, trust, forgiveness, justice and the value of all human life. We believe these themes are clearly Christian in nature but are universal in their application. We recognise that in our school we may have children from a variety of faith backgrounds and that many children have no religious background at all. Great care is taken in our collective worship to ensure that all children feel valued and special and that their integrity as human beings is consistently upheld. Collective Worship at Fressingfield CE Primary School is an inclusive activity. Parents do have, of course, the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of our Collective Worship are strongly encouraged to contact the Headteacher.

Delivery and inclusion of Collective worship

Our pattern for collective worship is set out below:

Monday (1.00 pm)	Tuesday (1.00 pm)	Wednesday (1.00 pm)	Thursday (1.00 pm)	Friday (2:35pm)
Hymn Practice	Whole school assembly	Whole school assembly	Whole school assembly	Whole school assembly
Rehearsal and learning of songs to support Collective Worship incorporating a time for reflection of the words of the songs and ending with a prayer.	Values for Life programme ending with a prayer written and led by the children on the theme for the term	School forum assembly, some of which are led by the children.	Following the Values for Life programme with a led prayer at the end.	Whole school celebration assembly to reflect on the work that has been done that week including the parents.
Head of School	Ms Buckenham	Mr. Leicester	Minister/Clergy of the Anglican, Methodist or Baptist churches and Open the Book team.	Head of School
Grace before lunch and a prayer read from the prayer tree in each class.	Grace before lunch and a prayer read from the prayer tree in each class.	Grace before lunch and a prayer read from the prayer tree in each class.	Grace before lunch and a prayer read from the prayer tree in each class.	Grace before lunch and a prayer read from the prayer tree in each class.

Visitors play an important part in the life of our school and each week a member of the clergy/ministerial leaders from the Anglican, Methodist and Baptist churches in the village lead acts of worship. These assemblies follow a set plan put together in accordance with the school policy and in conjunction with the clergy/ministers, Executive Headteacher (Mr. Taylor) and RE co-ordinator (Mrs. Perry).

A candle is lit at the beginning of a guest assembly by a child in year 6 whilst another says: "We light this candle to show that Jesus is the light of the world".

The person leading the assembly will say, "The light of the Lord be with you" and the children to respond with, "and also with you".

At the end of the assembly a Year 6 child will say, 'We blow out this candle and the light of the Lord goes with you'.

The children respond with, 'Also with you'.

We record our acts of worship by means of recording the stories told and prayers written by the children.

As a school we say or sing Grace in each class before lunch every day and read a prayer taken from the prayer tree in each class.

We provide the children with an outdoor reflective area and a prayer table. The theme changes each term and reflects the Christian calendar and key festivals of other world faiths.

We also provide a display in the hall, visible to all children outlining the theme for the term's assemblies.