

Hovingham & St Hilda's, Ampleforth CE VC Primary Schools Federation Collective Worship Policy 2019

Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our vision and associated values **'Where everyone grows'**

Our vision, "Where everyone grows" is rooted in "I have come that that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10.10) We believe that education must equip people of all ages with the skills to maximise their engagement with the world around them and education must develop academic, spiritual, emotional and personal growth.

and celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Therefore Collective Worship at Hovingham and St Hilda's, Ampleforth CE VC Primary Schools Federation is planned;

- to be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- will regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the schools core Christian values
- will have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity
- will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- will challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection Stillness
- will contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to"
- will be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.

Collective worship should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and handbook.

Parents contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school new starter pack.

Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

The Federation is committed to Inclusion and Equal Opportunities. Please refer to our Equalities Scheme which can be found on our website.

Planning Collective Worship

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by lighting a candle / asking children to reflect quietly.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation. At Hovingham the church worship-planning group meets once a term led by the Headteacher. At St Hilda's, the headteacher meets regularly with the vicar. Across the Federation the Governor's Vision and Values Committee meets termly. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through the gathering of pupil voice. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship.

Andrew Reid, one of the schools Foundation governors, has a role monitoring Collective worship through membership of the Vision and Values Committee at the Federation.

There are a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning. 'Roots and Fruits' is a central part of our worship.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Mr Pynn (Headteacher)

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Whole School Worship is held daily. These are taken by Class teachers and the Headteacher. At Hovingham they are also taken by members of the Church Worship Group, including the Vicar. At St Hilda's, Ampleforth they are also taken by the Vicar.

Visitors have included members of the partner Diocese in South Africa (2018).

Acts of worship generally follow themes that are linked to the schools vision and values and include the pattern of the church's year. In each school a different value is focused on each half term

Visitors

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher. Please see the schools' Visitors policy.

Staff and Community Involvement in Collective Worship

Certain named individuals (Hovingham: James Pynn, Carla Martindale, Julie Caddy, Michelle Carter, Rev Allwood and the Church Worship Group. St Hilda's, Ampleforth: James Pynn, Daisy Dunning, Amy Kirk, Faye-Dodds Aston & Rev Reid) are involved on a regular basis with the worship programme. Other staff and pupils are given the opportunity of being involved in this programme every term.

Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship, is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors on a termly basis.

From September 2019 all who deliver worship will be observed on a termly basis. This process supports the school's self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body.

Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in questionnaires and pupil conferences.

All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop. We also welcome the contributions of parents and pupils through our questionnaires, which are reviewed and considered on a regular basis. These are shared with our Vision and Values Committee and during full governing body meetings and play an integral part in developing the spiritual growth of the school. Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York (SIAMS).

Policy agreed by Board of Governors on July 2019