



Eton Porny C. of E. First School Policy Document

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Category: Statutory	Approved by Head Teacher:
For Review By: Headteacher	<i>K E Russell</i>
Review Schedule: As required	Overviewed by LGB:
Next Review Date:	

*We are all created unique and special.
He made us all perfect having our own uniqueness.
1 Peter 4:10-11 'God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts.
Use them well to serve one another'.*

Collective Worship Policy

This policy provides the framework for our acts of collective worship. It relates to the aims and values of the school which are embedded in the strong Christian ethos of Eton Porny C of E First School and in sympathy with 'Valuing All God's Children' and the 'Church of England's Vision for Education'.

Aims

At Eton Porny we have three aims: Our aims, in line with our distinctively Christian values

- To create a fun, positive, caring and respectful environment, promoting the joy of learning.
- To develop our pupils to the best of their ability, each with strong self-belief and all exceeding their potential.
- To develop our pupils' confidence in themselves, promoting resilience in the face of challenge.

At Eton Porny, the daily act of Collective Worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our Christian School Vision Statement:

*We are all created unique and special.
He made us all perfect having our own uniqueness.
1 Peter 4:10-11 'God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts.
Use them well to serve one another'.*

Collective Worship is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together. The worship of the school is based on promoting our distinctively Christian vision and values which permeate through the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values

We identify the values of Respect, Perseverance, Peace/Hope, Compassion/Community, Aspiration, Love/Kindness, Thankfulness/Appreciation, Truth, Harmony/Forgiveness, Grace/Humility, and Joy as being integral to our school and the embody the distinctive Christian character of Eton Porny C of E First School.

Values Education

We blend Christian teaching with our School Values in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday:	Values Collective Worship	Rev. Demery/Class Teacher on rotation
Tuesday:	Values Collective Worship	Class Teacher on rotation
Wednesday:	Open the Book	Rev. La and the 'Open the Book Team'*
Thursday:	Hymn Practice	Mrs Hilton
Friday:	Celebration Assembly	Headteacher/ Assistant Headteacher

*Open the Book is on a Bi-weekly basis rotation - on weeks there is no open the book Teachers do 'Class Worship' where the children focus on our values in individual classes or in Key Stages.

Each half term the children have the opportunity to bring in out of school achievements for a special celebration assembly and a group of our More Able pupils lead one of our Collective Worship sessions focusing on the current School Value.

We have Church Services at both St. John the Evangelist in Eton and at the Chapels at Eton College. Parents are invited to our Christingle Service and our Easter Service, other services are attended by staff and pupils only.

Children

Children have many opportunities to be part of our Collective Worship, including opening and closing Collective Worship. All Children in Year 4 take part in our Christmas and Easter Services by each reading part of the Christmas/Easter Story. Children are active participants in our 'Open the Book Assemblies' helping to act out the story. Children are invited to write prayers for our Celebration Assembly each week and these prayers are put onto leaves on our prayer tree.

Planning, Content and Detail

Members of the 'Foundation Subject Team' liaise/meet with both Rev. Demery and Rev. La to plan the content of the Collective Worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including singing. A range of prayers is used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. We invite pupils to participate in prayer; at the beginning of the whole school worship a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged by the lighting of a candle. **A cross is also displayed on the altar table as is The Bible.** A prayer is said in the morning in the daily act of Collective Worship, our lunchtime prayer is said by the class at the start of lunch and a prayer is said at the end of the day. If children want to write a prayer for Collective Worship or our Celebration Assembly they are encouraged to speak to their teacher or the Headteacher. We write these prayers out onto leaves which are then added onto our prayer tree.

Other Faiths

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship on our termly Collective Worship timetable. Any evaluation will be recorded here and monitored by the 'Foundation Subjects Team' or the Headteacher with the Local Governing Body (LGB).

Visitors

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. Rev. La and the 'Open the Book Team' from St. John the Evangelist and Rev. Demery from Eton College are our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards our services at the Church/ Chapels.

Equal Opportunities and Special Needs issues

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of R.E. At each Key Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.

Covid-19 restrictions have meant that there have been adaptations made to the organisation of collective worship and visitors attending.