



Eton Porny C. of E. First School

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Category: Non- Statutory	Approved by Head Teacher: <i>E Stanford-Smith, March 2026</i>
Reviewed by: Headteacher, February 2026.	
Review Schedule: As required	Overviewed by LGB: <i>Anita Spires & Maggie Waller, March 2026</i>
Next review date: As required	

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 the 'Church of England's Vision for Education'.

Our 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 School Christian 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 an invitational, inclusive and inspirational time where we come together as a school community to learn, share, reflect and celebrate. It is a time to reaffirm the school's theologically rooted Christian vision and values through stories, song and prayer. These special times, which punctuate the school day with moments of peace, calm and deliberate slowness, also offer space to think about the impact of events which might occur, locally, regionally, nationally or globally, to support the community to readjust or reset during times of challenge or celebration.

Values

Respect, Responsibility, Kindness, Resilience, Joy

We identify these values as integral to our school and embody the distinctive Christian character of Eton Porny C of E First School. We blend broadly Christian teaching with our School Values in order to create opportunities for children to develop 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 including explicit teaching of our values and PSHE themes, Open the Book, Hymn Practice, Space Makers and Celebration Assembly. Each half term the children have the opportunity to bring in out of school achievements for a special celebration.

Contributions of staff, pupils, clergy and other visitors are valued highly. 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.

Space Makers

Space Makers is a resource for schools and churches from the Diocese of Oxford. Accessible to pupils of all faiths and worldviews, five contemplative practices help schools to embrace some of the ancient wisdom of the Christian tradition and, in doing so, assist children to navigate the world around them. A number of staff and children at Eton Porny C of E First School have undertaken training to support them in delivering this resource to the whole school.

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. We also have a group of children who have had 'Space Makers' training to support with leading class worship.

Planning, Content and Detail

Collective worship is planned on half termly basis in liaison with both Rev. Demery and Rev. Andreas to plan the content of the Collective Worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including singing, the Lord's Prayer and prayers written by the children. We invite pupils to participate in prayer and/or reflection with a short time of quiet. 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.

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

Details of each act of worship are recorded on our termly Collective Worship timetable. Any evaluation will be recorded and monitored by the Collective Worship lead 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. Andreas and the 'Open the Book Team' from St. John the Evangelist and Rev. Demery from Eton College are valuable resources who attend and contribute towards our collective worship timetable as well as leading 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.