Love, Learn, Live

"Love your neighbour as you love yourself" Luke 10:27

St Clement's C of E Primary School

'Love your neighbour as you love yourself'

We follow Jesus' example by valuing and cherishing all God's children in an ever-changing world. We are loved so we can love, we learn so we can grow and therefore live our lives to the full, flourishing in the eyes of God today and in the future.



School Statement on Collective Worship

In St Clement's C of E Primary School worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. Our vision is to "Love, Learn, Live" and through worship we support our children to recognize that they are all valued and loved by God and can love, they are able to learn through the teachings of Jesus which guides them through life making decisions and overcoming challenges that enables them to flourish and live successful lives. Worship is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

For Christians in church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In school Collective Worship takes account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils. In St Clement's C of E Primary School the purpose of Collective Worship will be to lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship, pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian calendar and those of other faiths. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually. Collective Worship in our school is invitational, inspirational and inclusive.

Aims and Guiding Principles

Collective Worship at St Clement's C of E Primary School strives to follow the following principles:

- **It is invitational**

  Acts of Collective Worship will:
  - nurture and maintain the dignity of the image of God in everyone through working for social justice;
  - encourage pupils to consider the needs of others through charitable service and courageous advocacy;
  - nurture reflection, stillness, meditation and prayer;
  - provide pupils with (age appropriate) opportunities to explore the spiritual dimension of their lives through music, images and words;
  - provide a sense of occasion that is separate from the rest of the school day;
  - foster an appreciation of the natural world and our shared responsibilities for maintaining it;
  - identify opportunities for Christian celebration which can be associated with other school events;
  - develop clear partnerships between worship in the school and the wider community.

- **It is inclusive**

  Our understanding of Christianity is that it is an inclusive faith which mirrors the attitude of Jesus Christ in the Gospels. Thus, we welcome children and staff of all faiths to our worship. Through their Christian character our acts of Collective Worship will:
  - recognise and celebrate the diversity of cultures, lifestyles and faiths which exist in our school and local community;
  - have an atmosphere in which everyone feels valued and safe;
  - be appropriate for every student to attend;
  - use language that is accessible and does not assume a particular faith of the listener;
  - account for the different spiritual journeys that children and adults are on;
  - focus on issues and experiences which are relevant to the pupils;
  - give space to consent and dissent, to sit back and consider;
  - foster active roles of pupils, parents and members of the local community – in preparation, participation and leadership;
  - provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.

- **It is inspiring**

  Our acts of collective worship provide wider opportunities to:
  - promote wide ownership of our Christian vision;
  - assist learners to have increased awareness and to reflect upon fundamental issues about life;
  - allow children and adults to ask big questions about life and beyond;
  - become courageous advocates in the world in which they live;
  - motivate children into action, thinking differently and reflecting on their behaviour, action and wider community;
  - develop learners' understanding of the Christian faith and Church (Anglican) practice through appropriate Biblical and liturgical content;
  - encounter and explore Jesus's teachings and the trinitarian nature of Christian faith;
  - provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to observe and / or respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity;
  - include appropriate references to and elements of other faiths and secular worldviews;
  - include opportunities to celebrate the academic, social, personal and wider achievements of pupils.

- **Therefore, we will ensure that:**
  - a range of people are involved in leading worship, including learners;
  - opportunities are offered to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning and leading worship;
  - the timetabling of acts of worship includes the use of the local church and various groupings of pupils;
  - worship is planned in relation to our distinctive Christian vision and values;
  - worship is regularly evaluated by a range of members of the school community;
  - materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to ensure that children have clear understanding of how the teachings of Jesus impact what we do locally, nationally and globally
  - opportunities for worship / prayer are offered throughout the day.

Pattern of Collective Worship

Our regular pattern of worship ensures that children experience worship from a range of different leaders and viewpoints, whilst maintaining the integrity of Anglican Liturgy.

Day	Type of Worship	Led by
Monday	Christian Vision and value focus/Spirituality	Headteacher/Clergy
Tuesday	Sustainable Development Goals	Subject lead/ SLT/ Classes
Wednesday	Special events/ days/themes	Headteacher and Worship Team
Thursday	**Picture News:** Big question linked to the wider world and our vision, link with British Values	**Picture news team** – Staff team on rotation.
Friday	Celebration/ Achievement	SLT

Planning, Recording, Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Planning**
  - A termly overview for worship is planned in conjunction with SLT, Collective Worship Leader, children and local clergy.
  - Planning follows "Roots and Fruits" as a guide, alongside Picture News and other collective worship resources where appropriate.
  - Collective Worship is planned using the church calendar and the calendars of other faiths.
  - A clear liturgy is followed for some acts of Collective Worship.
  - For some acts of Collective Worship, a Bible reading, song and prayer are carefully planned to link with the theme of worship.
  - A time of reflection is planned as part of the worship.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation**
  - The effectiveness of Collective Worship is monitored within our regular monitoring cycle (termly). This is to ensure worship remains invitational, inclusive and inspiring.
  - All monitoring for Collective Worship is recorded and evaluation supports continued improvement. The views of children supports this improvement.

Staff Development and Training

We ensure that all staff, including support staff, receive appropriate training and opportunities for professional development, both as individuals and as groups or teams. Training needs for staff may be identified through regular subject leader audits as well as performance management cycles. Additionally, support and guidance are provided for visitors and the clergy who lead Collective Worship.

The Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship

The 1944 and1988 Education Acts state that parents have the right to withdraw children from Collective Worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

In St Clement's C of E Primary School on occasion, a parent may make a request for their child to be withdrawn from Collective Worship. Parents wishing to request a withdrawal should meet with the Head of school to discuss their concerns and requirements. The meeting will establish:

- the elements of worship in which the parent would object to the child taking part;
- the practical implications of withdrawal;
- whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such worship, and if so, how much.

Where parents have withdrawn their children from Collective Worship and request religious worship according to their faith or denomination, the School Improvement Board and Head of School will seek to respond positively to such requests providing:

- such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school;
- that the alternative provision would be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum as set out in the Education Acts.

If the parent asks that a pupil should be wholly or partly excused from attending any religious worship at the school, then the school will comply.

Review

This policy will be subject to the normal cycle of policy review and will be reviewed and ratified by the School Improvement Board every 2 years. Furthermore, there may be occasions where this policy is reviewed outside the normal review cycle, including but not limited to:

- a change in the SIAMS Schedule for Inspections;
- a change in legal position framework for Collective Worship.

Approval / review by Governing Body:

Head of School: L Long **Date:** 22.9.21

Chair of Governors: J Long **Date:** 22.9.21

Date of next review: September 2023