



South Bersted CE Primary Collective Acts of Worship

Web and/or Internal	Web/Internal
This policy should be reviewed every	Every three years
Policy approved by Governors	Spring 2022
Date of Review	Spring 2025
Member of staff responsible	Headteacher
Policy created by	Headteacher
Signed by Chair of Governors and/or Headteacher	

INTRODUCTION

At South Bersted CE Primary School, **'Life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)**, underpins our school vision. We believe it is important to meet together daily as a community to reinforce the spiritual ethos and Christian Distinctiveness of the school community. The character of worship in the school is Christian with references to other faiths when appropriate. Collective worship is co-ordinated by the Headteacher and a variety of themes and activities are used to ensure a high quality experience for all the children regardless of their family background.

AIMS

At South Bersted CE Primary School, through Collective Worship, we aim to:

- ❖ provide an opportunity to reflect on life and prayer;
- ❖ introduce children to religious worship in a meaningful and honest way;
- ❖ allow children to consider the importance and relevance of Christian values;
- ❖ enable those children who want to worship God to do so;
- ❖ reflect upon human life - the wonderful, joyful, beautiful, humorous, heroic, tragic, the sorrowful, the solemn.
- ❖ encourage and develop a sense of community in the school reinforcing the aims and ethos and celebrating the ideals and values of the school.

ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

In accordance with the law we hold a daily Collective Act of Worship each school day.

All children (except those withdrawn by parents) attend the school's Act of Worship, which are led by various members of staff. From time to time we encourage visitors to join with us and also lead the Collective Act of Worship. On occasions parents are also invited to attend.

Class led Acts of Worship take place throughout the academic year which involve the staff and children of a particular class/year group sharing their work and reflections of the school's Christian values. Parents are welcome to attend these occasions.

The daily Collective Act of Worship takes place in the school hall at 10.25 am each day (9.00am when Classes lead worship). Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Vicar of the local Parish Church leads Collective Worship every Tuesday.

Collective Worship is co-ordinated by the Headteacher, who from time to time may consult with the Vicar of the local Parish Church regarding the themes and framework for Collective Worship.

All the worship in the school is of a broadly Christian character while the content will vary and will be more explicitly Christian on some days and possibly less so, on others.

CONTENT

At South Bersted CE Primary School a Collective Act of Worship may include rituals, ceremonies and forms of expression that affirm and celebrate beliefs. The 'Rituals' used may include practices such as times of quiet reflection or prayer, songs, drama, art and/or readings from the Bible and other writings.

Taking part on Collective Worship is more than attending; the context of the worship should elicit responses from the pupils.

We draw on the following to enable those present at the school's Collective Act of Worship, to reflect upon matters of worth: -

- stories, readings
- dance, drama
- pictures
- songs, music
- sacred and secular readings
- creative, reflective silence
- artefacts and natural objects
- contributions from children and staff
- visitors

Collective Worship will vary in the content but will normally contain a hymn, a prayer and a reading from the Bible or other children's literature appropriate to the age, ability and family background of the children.

To encourage pupils to reflect on the school's values at the end of each month children complete a class reflection following the head (what did it make you think), heart (what did it make you feel) and feet (how has it made you change) approach. At the end of each month these are collected by the Headteacher.

WEEKLY PROGRAMME

All assemblies are whole school.

Monday	Headteacher - Whole School Value
Tuesday	Vicar
Wednesday	Deputy Headteacher - Picture News
Thursday	First Thursday of each month: Local Baptist minister or representative. Alternates between Philosophy for Children and Hymn practice.
Friday	Headteacher - Celebration assembly

TIME ALLOCATION

Collective Worship is planned for 20 minutes each day and include a prayer.

RESOURCES

A range of books and resources are available to support Collective Worship in the school and are kept in the DT room resources area and the Headteacher's office.

WITHDRAWAL

When parents request their child be withdrawn from Collective Worship they are interviewed by the Headteacher to clarify the beliefs and practices that they wish their child to be excluded from. Consequently, to assure their safety when withdrawn, pupils work in the library under the supervision of a Teaching Assistant.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Worship is used explicitly to promote spiritual development. Pupils are provided with the opportunity to consider and reflect on issues that reflect areas of meaning and Christian values. This is done through the input, readings, singing, prayers and quiet time for reflection.

COMMUNITY

The school works with the local Church. The Vicar of the local Parish Church supports the school and the school worships in the local church twice termly.

Parents are invited to attend services held at the Parish Church on the first Friday and last day of each term as well as special Easter and Christmas Services.