

St John's CE Primary Academy

'Life in all its Fullness' - John 10:10



Collective Worship Policy

Date last reviewed: November 2025

Reviewed by: Head of School and LGC

Date for next review: September 2026

Worship is...

Giving honour and reverence to a supreme being.

Christian worship is concerned with bringing praise, prayer, thanksgiving and adoration to God.

It is an activity of response: in words, actions and thoughts.

Vision Statement

Collective worship plays a central part in the life of St John's C.E. Primary Academy. It is a living expression of our Christian vision – *"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"* (John 10:10).

Our worship offers all members of the school community opportunities to reflect upon, celebrate, and live out this vision. Through daily acts of collective worship, we seek to nurture the spiritual growth of pupils and adults alike, helping everyone to flourish in **Faith, Hope, and Love**.

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Hope

Faith

Love

- **Faith** - encouraging honesty, reflection, and respect for ourselves, others, and God.
- **Hope** - inspiring resilience, courage, and a belief in the potential for growth and transformation.
- **Love** - fostering kindness, service, inclusivity, and forgiveness in all we do.

Worship is the heartbeat of our school's Christian ethos, valued and honoured through the Academy's Anglican Foundation. It is set within the context of the corporate life of our school and its historic partnership with **St John's Church** and **Keele Chapel**.

We affirm every individual's **unique worth and contribution**, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, ability, background, or religion. All are invited to participate and experience worship as an inclusive, inspiring, and life-giving expression of faith.

Legal Requirements

Trust Deed

Our daily act of collective worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the Academy, which requires worship to be consistent with the faith, principles, and practices of the Church of England.

DfES Guidance

We also take into account DfES legislation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/collective-worship-in-schools>

1988 Education Act

We also take into account the 1988 Education Act that states:

'...all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall in each school day take part in an act of collective worship',

and that this should be,

'.....mainly of a broadly Christian character'.

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Worship Practice

At St John's CE Primary Academy, Collective Worship is an opportunity for the whole school community to come together to celebrate, reflect, and respond to God's presence and to our shared vision of *'living life in all its fullness'* (John 10:10).

Worship takes place **every day** and is an integral part of our school rhythm and spiritual life:

Monday and Wednesday: Whole-school worship led by senior leaders, clergy, or pupil worship leaders.

Tuesday: Class-based worship, allowing for more personal reflection and discussion within each classroom community.

Thursday: Worship through song, celebrating praise and joy through music.

Friday: Celebration Worship with our parent community, recognising pupil achievements and giving thanks through prayer, praise, and song.

Through this regular rhythm of worship, we nurture a strong sense of community, belonging, and shared faith, helping every child and adult to grow in **Faith, Hope, and Love**.

SIAMS

As a Church of England school, collective worship is inspected under the SIAMS Framework. Our collective worship is an expression of our Christian vision and is evaluated for:

- † Inclusivity, invitation, and inspiration
- † Opportunities for spiritual growth through prayer, stillness, worship, and reflection
- † Understanding of Christian worship through music, story, prayer, and Anglican tradition
- † Engagement with Christian teachings, the Bible, and the Trinitarian nature of God
- † Pupil and adult involvement in planning and leading worship
- † Partnerships with local church communities to enhance provision

Right of Withdrawal

We respect the right of withdrawal from worship for pupils (at parents' request) and staff but encourage dialogue to ensure shared understanding of its aims.

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Aims of Worship

Worship will provide opportunities to:

- † Foster spiritual development, reverence, and reflection
- † Engage pupils creatively (drama, poetry, prayer, song, etc.)
- † Celebrate Christian faith and traditions
- † Deepen understanding of school Christian values
- † Reflect on Christian teachings and festivals
- † Inspire personal exploration of faith
- † Build community and shared values
- † Support charitable work and community connection
- † Celebrate achievements and foster respectful behaviour

Management and Resourcing

The Head of School and Chair of Governors hold ultimate responsibility. All staff contribute to pupils' spiritual development. Worship is resourced to reflect its significance. Pupils are actively encouraged to plan and lead worship.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective worship is regularly monitored and evaluated by the SLT along with the Chaplaincy team that constitutes children and our Foundation Governors. Stakeholder views are gathered and a yearly review of this policy ensures relevance and impact.

Chaplaincy

Managed by the Head of School in consultation with the Chair of Governors and the Governing Body.

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Worship Themes

Themes are drawn from:

- † Roots and Fruits
- † Resources from local clergy
- † The school's vision and values

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