



## Lympstone C of E Primary School

*‘Let all that you do be done in love’  
1 Corinthians 16:14*

### POLICY STATEMENT:      ACTS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Version	Review frequency	Approved by	Date approved	Date of next review
1.0	Every 3 years	Curriculum committee	March 2009	March 2012
2.0	Every 3 years	Curriculum committee	January 2012	January 2015
3.0	Every 3 years	Curriculum committee	January 2015	January 2018
4.0	Every 3 years	Ethos committee	January 2018	January 2021

Lympstone C of E Primary School was founded in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century by the Church of England to provide education for the children of the parish. Today it is what is known as a Voluntary Controlled Church of England School. This means that although the buildings remain in the ownership of the Church of England, funding is provided through Devon County Council. The Church appoints Foundation Governors of the school to ensure the continuing distinctive Christian ethos as a Church School. Worship is an essential part of the daily life of the school and is Christian in accordance with the aims and practices of the Church of England. Lympstone C of E Primary School welcomes pupils of all religions (and none) – and aims to provide Acts of Worship that are accessible and meaningful to all. The school respects the legal right of parents to withdraw their children from acts of worship. Alternative arrangements will be made for any child in agreement with the parents and the Headteacher.

#### **Aims**

The aim of collective worship is to give a period of time to the children each day in which to develop their spirituality and affirm good social values. Lympstone’s position as a Church School means that this will take place within a Christian framework. School worship is the place where we acknowledge the larger world we inhabit and where we are touched, however fleetingly, by its mystery. Pupils need a time and place where their sense of awe and wonder can be given expression.

### **Structure**

Acts of worship will take place daily, as both the whole school collectively and in class. They will have a candle to focus thoughts and children will have the opportunity to say a prayer to give thanks or to ask for God's support. The Trinity will be acknowledged during Collective worship with a Bible to remind of God the Father, A Cross to remind of God the Son and candle flame to remind us of God The Holy Spirit.

### **Staffing Responsibilities**

Attendance at all acts of worship by the teachers is felt to be of importance and should be a priority. It is understood that there will be occasions when attendance will not be possible. Additionally Lymstone C of E Primary School recognises the right of teachers to withdraw from collective worship.

### **Content**

A variety of styles and approaches should be used to encourage the development of each child's spiritual and moral awareness. Our Collective Worship will follow Roots and fruits programme and will have a half termly focus that links to our school values. All acts of worship will have time to learn (Windows), time to reflect (Mirrors) and time to respond (Doors). There will also be a prayer, led by staff or children and a song/hymn. Collective Worship will include stories (both biblical and non-biblical) of a Christian nature. To recognise the varying stages of intellectual, emotional and spiritual development within the age range of a primary school, the acts of worship will be both whole-school based and key stage based. Children need to take part in some acts of worship in which language and concepts appropriate to their age are used. Older children will have the opportunity to challenge their developing perception of the world. Pupils and staff will bring a range of religious experiences which provide a focus for sharing values, beliefs and commitments. Pupils of different faiths, and none, will be encouraged to consider the importance of faith and religious principles in many people's lives and will be invited to join us in prayer. This will be assisted by providing a supportive religious environment. Acts of worship in the school will be distinctly Christian..

### **Foundation Governors**

The Foundation Governors are responsible for the collective acts of worship in the school and will be happy to help and advise where possible. The Foundation Governors monitor our acts of worship and often join us in Church for specific services.

### **Visitors**

Collective worship is not a time that should be given over to visitors unless they are specifically there to further the act of worship or their subject fits easily within the framework of worship. Visitors should be given advice on what is required of them in advance of their visit. The parish priest or

members of the church lead acts of worship about six times a year, especially when it is a distinctive event within the Christian calendar.

### **The School Values**

Our school values of Love, Peace, Compassion, Forgiveness, Equality, Justice and Trust are implemented into acts of worship and children are reminded of how they can show these in action. Each half term has a school value as a focus.

### **Records and Evaluation**

There is an annual planner on a two year rolling programme for our Act of Worship. This includes the theme for the half term and the week, it also includes class worship follow up ideas and links to Biblical stories.