



Jesus said 'I have come so that you might have life - life in all its fullness' St John's gospel
Chapter 10, verse 10

Brill Church of England School Collective Worship Policy

Policy Reviewed	Sept '18	Sept 2019			
Policy Owner	I.Keeping	I.Keeping and P.Slusar			
Signed Headteacher					
Review date	Sept '19	Sept 2020			

At Brill C of E Primary School we provide an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. We take pride in providing strong pastoral support in a safe learning environment where every child and adult is valued and encouraged to achieve their full potential. We aim to prepare every child for the challenges and changes of the future by giving them opportunities so they can achieve the highest standards in their personal development. The school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with All Saints Church, Brill.

Our Vision

A Brill child should be resilient and feel secure and supported in reaching their potential, ready for the challenges of today and prepared for tomorrow.

Our Mission

With the Wind in Our Sails; we embrace uniqueness, nurture creativity and encourage growth in every child.

Our school values

Value	Bible Quote
Honesty	“Tell the truth to each other.” Zechariah 8.16
Service	“Serve one another in love.” Galatians 5.13
Love	“Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or conceited or proud.” 1 Corinthians 13.4
Compassion	“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” Colossians 3.12
Hope	“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” Jeremiah 29.11
Thankfulness	“Everytime I think of you I give thanks to my God.” Philippians 1.3
Diversity	“Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.” Romans 12.16
Respect	“Do to others as you would have them do to you.” Matthew 7.12
Joy	“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5.16-18
Peace	“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” Matthew 5.9
Forgiveness	“Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others.” Colossians 3.13
Courage	“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1.9

Philosophy

Brill C of E School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School. As an inclusive Christian community worship is an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a school community to reflect spiritually on our School’s Christian Values.

“The arrangements for the required collective worship may, in respect of each school day, provide for a single act of worship for all pupils or for separate acts of worship for pupils in different age groups or in different school groups.”

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998

Parents are aware that Brill is a Church school through our Christian Values and ethos which is clear in our school prospectus and website, they are notified that Collective Worship will be based upon the foundations and principles of the Church of England. The governing body are aware of their legal responsibilities and are clear of their statutory responsibility to uphold the Christian foundation of the school. Parents who do not wish their children to take part in Collective Worship have the right to withdraw them as stated with the DfE requirements. Parents need to contact the school office or class teacher to indicate if alternative supervision is required.

“Collective worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.”

“Religious Education and Collective Worship.” DFE Circular 1/94.

Aims of Worship

- reflect the Ethos Statement and/or Mission Statement of the school (see above)
- be clearly planned
- be appropriate to the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of the pupils
- offer opportunities to worship God
- be inclusive and an occasion where each individual’s integrity is respected
- offer opportunities for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- reflect some of the practices and traditions of the local church
- be regularly monitored and evaluated
- underpin the Christian values and ethos of the school
- celebrate the values and worth of the school community
- be an opportunity for pupils to reflect on human existence
- help children explore and develop their own spirituality
- enable children to explore and evaluate their own beliefs
- offer opportunities to share worship with parents, governors and members of the local community
- celebrate special occasions in the Churches year and the life of the community
- show appreciation for the God given gifts and talents of the school community.

Organisation

As a Church of England School we will provide a daily act of collective worship which is based on Christian principles. The act of worship will be appropriate for the ages, abilities and backgrounds of all pupils and allow those pupils from non-Christian families to join in. In order to achieve this there will be:

- A Christian Value these are discussed and planned for each half term.
- A reading or story these may be from the Bible or other cultures and may be read or told by a child, teacher, visitor, or member of the All Saints Church Team Clergy.
- A hymn or song With a link to reflection or Christian principles
- A prayer or blessing these may also be taken by any of the above-named people and may be written/said by children.
- A time of quiet reflection Image, Biblical quotes or questions on the whiteboard for pupils to think about/Prayer Space Week
- The Lord’s Prayer this will feature regularly in Worship.
- Appropriate music Children and staff will be encouraged to listen carefully to appreciate the gift and talents of the composers, musicians and singers.

Classes will be led into the hall by the staff in a quiet and orderly manner and sit in the same manner to listen to the music and to focus.

The Planning of Collective Worship

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation. The content and methodology of Collective Worship should be varied and there should be evidence of this in planning.

Each term there is a Christian Value which permeates school life and leads Collective worship. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective. This will mean that by the end of the week the pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints. Alternatively class teachers may develop their worship from themes and events that occur on the curriculum during the week.

Worship is regularly discussed at Inset and staff meetings to ensure there is an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to discuss the Christian values for the next term.

The school council regularly seeks the views of their classmates and reports these findings to the school council as a recurring agenda item.

Timing

The total time for collective worship 20 minutes and will be at 10.25 am on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and at 2:20pm on Friday.

Monday	-	Whole school-Value themed worship led by SLT
Tuesday	-	Whole school singing worship-led by Mrs Bucknall (music coordinator)
Wednesday	-	Whole school Clergy value themed worship by Priscilla and Jenny of All Saints Church (community and parents invited to attend)
Thursday	-	Whole school extra-curricular celebration worship led by Miss Butler
Friday	-	Whole school celebration worship led by Mrs White-Headteacher (parents invited to attend)

Monitoring of Collective Worship

The monitoring of the planning and provision of worship should be carried out on a regular basis. The foundation governors have a key role in this process to ensure that the legal requirements are met and that the worship offered to the pupils is of the highest quality. It is recommended that the Collective worship section of The National Societies Self-evaluation toolkit be used as a basis for this process (see SIAMS SEF). This is done through discussion and observations.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Brill we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the head teacher/worship co-ordinator.

The school has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. All teachers in VC Schools, including the head teacher, have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship, but the head teacher, should he or she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship in Brill school.

Responsibility for Collective Worship

The governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that the legal requirements for worship are met. In a small school the Headteacher may wish to take on the responsibility for organising and planning the worship. Clergy are encouraged to be involved in the planning and preparation of school worship as this will ensure continuity between the worship in the school and in the parish or parishes.

The community

Parents, Governors, the local Playgroup, Over 60's and other members of the community are welcomed to join the school worship. The Harvest Festival, Easter Service and the Christmas Service are held at All Saints Church, Brill.

Further worship

Children and staff say a prayer or grace before lunch within the hall, followed by a short moment for reflection.

Equal opportunities

Tolerance and positive attitudes are encouraged towards those within our community of different faiths, cultural background, or with disabilities. All children will be given opportunities to actively participate. A variety of music and art from different cultures will be part of planned programme.

Appendix 1

Questions about Collective Worship for the Staff and Governing Body

- Is there a clear policy document for Collective Worship?
- Does the school policy relate to the school's Ethos and/or Mission Statement?
- Is the policy for Collective Worship being followed?
- How is the worship organised?
- Does the school have a named person responsible for Collective Worship alongside the Head Teacher?
- Is there a governor with responsibility for Collective Worship?
- Does the school prospectus clearly reflect the legal position of Collective Worship?
- Does the school prospectus refer to the school's Trust Deed?

- Does the prospectus and other school documentation reflect the value that the school and the governing body place on Collective Worship?
- Is the Collective Worship clearly planned?
- Is there a budget set aside for Collective Worship?
- Is the worship professionally resourced?
- Have staff received in-service training on Collective Worship?
- Does the Collective Worship offered in the school underpin the school's Christian ethos?
- Is the Collective Worship provided underpinned by Christian values?
- Is the Collective Worship regularly monitored and evaluated?
- Does the worship take place in a variety of groupings?
- Are staff present for Collective Worship?
- Are support staff present for Collective Worship?
- Are there opportunities for governors and parents to be present for worship?
- Are there opportunities for individual class worship within the classrooms?
- Does the pattern of worship reflect the broad spectrum of the Anglican tradition and Christian heritage?
- Does the worship allow the pupils to encounter some of the wide range of art, music and artefacts within the Christian tradition?
- Does the quality and provision of Collective Worship offer opportunities for pupils' spiritual development?
- Does the worship offer opportunities for pupils' cultural and multi-cultural development?
- Does the worship give opportunities for the pupils to explore the worldwide Christian Church?
- Does the worship provide pupils with an opportunity to worship God?
- Does the worship take place in an environment conducive to worship?
- Does the worship offer pupils opportunities to encounter the more challenging experiences of life and death?
- Does the worship provide opportunities for the pupils to share and reflect upon things that are significant and meaningful to them?
- Does the worship provide experiences that are relevant to the pupils' ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds?
- Does the worship give time for silent reflection and an exploration of inner space?
- Does the worship link into other areas of the school curriculum e.g. PSHE and circle time?
- Do the classrooms have a 'sacred space' or a table set aside with a cloth and a candle as a vehicle for prayer and reflection?
- Have the school considered other vehicles for prayer and reflection e.g. an anonymous prayer box?
- Are pupils, governors, clergy or other visitors involved in leading Collective Worship?
- Does the governing body provide guidance for visitors who lead worship?
- Does the school celebrate the Eucharist?
- Has the governing body discussed the possibility of a school Eucharist?
- Are there regular acts of worship for staff, including a Eucharist?
- Does the school have any links with other Christian denominations?
- Does the worship celebrate all that is good and express thankfulness and joy at simply being alive?

Appendix 2

Date:	Time:	Leader:
Theme;	Group;	
Purpose and Development		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was the purpose of the act of worship clear to all present?</i> • <i>Was the theme developed effectively?</i> • <i>Were visual aids or different elements used in presentation?</i> • <i>Was worship integral to the school day?</i> • <i>Was the act of worship conducted at an appropriate pace?</i> 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was visual art used or children's creative work shown and celebrated?</i>
<p>Atmosphere</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was there a sense of order on entering and leaving?</i> • <i>Were candles, flowers, a cross or other visual focus used?</i> • <i>Was there a relaxed, secure atmosphere?</i> • <i>Did the leader contribute to the atmosphere with language, attitude and tone?</i> • <i>Is there a distinction between the assembly and an act of worship?</i> • <i>Was there a balance of music, speech and silence?</i>
<p>Spiritual Dimension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Could this act of collective worship have contributed to the spiritual and moral development of individuals?</i> • <i>Were there opportunities for prayer/reflection/quiet? How were they used?</i>
<p>Integrity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was there a sense of respect for individuals?</i> • <i>Was there openness, or compulsion, in invitations to pray or sing?</i> • <i>Did the occasion engender ease or discomfort among the participants?</i> • <i>Were the words of songs or hymns appropriate for the pupils and the theme?</i>
<p>Pupil/Student Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>How wide was the age range?</i> • <i>Was the delivery appropriate for the interests, background, ability and age range of pupils?</i> • <i>Were the pupils engaged and well motivated?</i>
<p>Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Were teachers present (how many?) or was this seen as non-contact time? Were they involved or spectators?</i>
<p>Parents, Governors, Visitors, Clergy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Were any parents, governors or visitors present?</i> • <i>If so, what role did they play?</i> • <i>Were links with the local church referred to?</i> • <i>If a visitor led the worship: was it evident that the briefing has been adequate?</i> • <i>Was the visitor introduced properly?</i> • <i>Was the visitor's contribution appropriate in content?</i> • <i>Were the concepts and language used appropriate to the children present?</i>
<p>Close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Was the timing good?</i> • <i>Did the occasion clarify and affirm the values for which the school stands?</i> • <i>Did it offer pupils/adults something to think about and take into the life of the school?</i>
<p>Additional points for future development</p>
<p>Overall, how would you rate this act of worship?</p>

Appendix 3

Sample Collective Worship Survey

The school is interested in your views and will use them to improve and develop the quality of collective worship. We thank you for the time and thought you give when answering our questions. This survey will be completed by parents, staff, governors and the wider community that the school serves.

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Collective Worship is a special part of the day. Any comments	Strongly Agree	Agree	Mostly Agree	Disagree
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