



Elland CofE (VA) Primary

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY 2017

Mission Statement

'Elland Church of England School's vision of Education is underpinned by Christian values. We are an inclusive school. We celebrate our children's achievements and allow them to reach their true potential.'

"Forward with children in our Hearts"

ETHOS

At Elland Church of England School our ethos is to nurture our children through Christian values. Our children are taught to respect other faiths as part of global citizenship. Individuals are given the opportunity to reflect upon and develop their personal faith.

Christian Values

Christian values are regarded as present throughout the delivery of this policy. Specific acknowledgement can be made to:

- Reverence – we show a profound respect for each other, our environment and the global community.
- Thankfulness – we develop an awareness of and express gratitude for all that we are fortunate to have.
- Justice - we develop wisdom through insight and develop our judgements of right and wrong.

Rationale

Collective worship is central to the life of the school. We aim to make worship a quality experience, important to the ethos of the school and its religious character. As a Voluntary Aided School, worship will be conducted in accordance with the trust deed of the school. Worship will be consistent with the faith and practices of the established Church of England.

Purposes

- To present opportunities to promote spiritual and religious development alongside SMSC
- To engage learners in a variety of ways, for example through drama, dance, song, multimedia, hymns, discussion, silence
- To contribute to the nurture of individual Faith through a greater understanding of the Christian faith.
- To foster cooperation and good relations with the Parish of Elland, its clergy and congregation and the wider Christian community of the area.

- To provide on occasion and by invitation, opportunities for visitors from other Christian churches, religious groups or charities to lead our collective worship
- To facilitate links with the local, national and global community
- To share, express and reflect on our distinctly Christian values
- To provide a sense of occasion with the opportunities for individual reflection and a variety of personal responses.
- To include Biblical material with learners being able to make some links between this and their own lives and to the school's core values.
- To ensure collective worship takes place in different settings, for example, classrooms, the hall, St Mary's Church, All Saints Church
- To provide opportunities for the development of personal beliefs and values, including the recognition of the place faith has in the lives of individuals.
- To foster a sense of awe and wonder.
- To develop awareness that life involves choices and demands.
- To provide children with the opportunity to confidently share their own relevant and appropriate prayers.
- To involve all stakeholders, and wherever possible include pupils
- To engage pupils in the planning, delivery and monitoring of Collective Worship
- To enable each class to lead a Collective Worship each term.
- Year 6 pupils and Ethos council have additional responsibilities including writing and assisting prayers.
- To relate worship to significant moments in the life of the school and the seasons of the Church.

In the normal course of events there will be a daily act of worship. Prayers will be said in class during the day. The children have the opportunity to visit the 'Awe and Wonder' room for personal prayer or reflection. A member of the Clergy invites the Children to come and take part in the prayer club. Parents have a statutory right to withdraw their children from worship. This right will be notified in the School Prospectus. Teachers in a Voluntary Aided school are expected to be present and to take part in school worship regularly. (Teachers do, however, have the right to abstain from worship). Arrangements for collective worship are the responsibility of the Governing Body after consultation with the Headteacher

A record and evaluation of Collective Worship will be kept. The impact of collective worship will be evaluated regularly. This will identify improvements and inform the planning of future Collective Worships. Church representation (usually clergy) will aim to lead an act of collective worship weekly. Teaching staff will aim to lead a whole school collective worship each term alongside collective worship in their key stages.

In conclusion, we value the impact Collective Worship has on contributing to the positive ethos of our school and its importance in underpinning the Christian values we uphold.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in July 2019

Policy agreed at the Governors' meeting on 13th July 2017