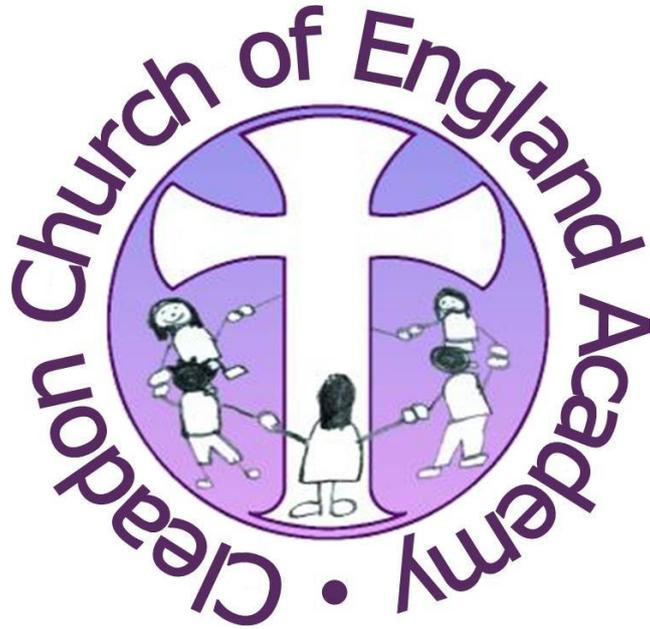


# **Cleadon Church of England Academy**



## **Collective Worship Policy**

Policy Adopted by Governing Body: Summer 2004  
Policy Reviewed January 2015.  
Spring 2018

Date of Next Review: Spring 2021



**Believe**

**Inspire**

**Excel**

**Mission Statement**

Guided by our caring Christian ethos, we all work together to equip everyone with the skills, attitude, creativity and motivation to become happy successful lifelong learners and respectful global citizens.

<b>Values</b>	
<b>We will bring our Christian ethos to life by:</b>	
<b>Striving for excellence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting high expectations,</li> <li>• Showing pride, passion and self-belief,</li> <li>• Encouraging forward thinking and embracing challenge,</li> <li>• Promoting continuous learning,</li> <li>• Recruiting the right people,</li> <li>• Facilitating continuous improvement,</li> <li>• Providing the widest range of opportunities to excel.</li> </ul>
<b>Achieving together</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning and working together harmoniously, within a supportive environment,</li> <li>• Ensuring everyone is valued,</li> <li>• Enabling everyone to have a voice,</li> <li>• Promoting shared understanding and ownership, through collaboration,</li> <li>• Sharing good practice, and celebrating success,</li> <li>• Challenging ourselves and others,</li> <li>• Supporting the communities in which we live and work.</li> </ul>
<b>Showing respect</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the wellbeing of all members,</li> <li>• Recognizing everybody's contribution,</li> <li>• Demonstrating courtesy and fairness to all,</li> <li>• Embracing diversity and practicing tolerance,</li> <li>• Celebrating the individual.</li> </ul>
<b>Inspiring success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nurturing achievement and celebrating success,</li> <li>• Embracing inspiration and innovation,</li> <li>• Encouraging self-motivation,</li> <li>• Providing inspirational, creative teaching and challenge,</li> <li>• Providing positive role models,</li> <li>• Delivering a broad and exciting curriculum that engages and enthuses all learners.</li> </ul>
<b>Acting with integrity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining professionalism at all times,</li> <li>• Valuing honesty, trust and accepting accountability,</li> <li>• Establishing transparent and effective communication,</li> <li>• Listening and acting upon feedback,</li> <li>• Ensuring collective care and responsibility.</li> </ul>
<b>This will be delivered within a caring, happy, safe and secure environment.</b>	

## **Ethos Statement**

The Academy aims to preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at Parish and diocesan level. The Academy aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

### **Rationale**

At Cleadon Church of England Academy, Collective Worship is in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England. The staff and Directors see the main purpose of the Academy as providing an excellent education both academically and socially in a Christian context for all its pupils. Collective Worship has the potential to unite the whole membership of the Academy and therefore to develop a sense of community. We believe that:

- ◆ One of the most important marks distinguishing Church academies from others should be the importance placed on the spiritual life of all members of the Academy community – pupils, teachers, governors and non teaching staff. This shows itself in the attention paid to the ethos of the Academy, the careful planning and delivery of the R.E. curriculum, but above all in the quality of the worship offered in Academy.
- ◆ At Cleadon Church of England Academy there is an integral partnership between the content and conduct of Academy worship and the ethos of the Academy. The staff and pupils share together in worship in order to support the promotion of Christian values as stated in the mission statement.
- ◆ Our worship allows children to see themselves as being unique and special individuals. Such an understanding encourages children to relate one with another in a supportive, rather than destructive manner. This respect is a reflection of the ethos of our Academy and is a central theme of the Behaviour Policy.

### **Legal Requirements**

The Education Act of 1988 re-emphasised the obligation laid on Academies and schools to provide a daily act of worship.

In an Aided Academy arrangements for collective worship are made by the Board of Directors after consultation with the Principal. Within the Board, the foundation directors have particular responsibility for seeing that the character of the Academy is reflected in the worship.

### **Withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship, however, it is made clear to parents before their child attends the Academy that Cleadon Church of England Academy is a Church of England Aided Academy and that worship will follow the teachings of the Church. Also, that worship is an important part of Academy life.

Withdrawal does not guarantee exclusion from the religious character of the Academy and the Governors hope that in choosing a church Academy, parents are hereby committing themselves to their child's participation in the religious life of the Academy.

Every effort will be made to ensure all children participate in worship.

Children who are withdrawn from worship will be supervised and given appropriate work.

Teachers have the right to withdraw from collective worship, as an Aided Academy, however, it is expected that teachers whose National Society contracts include Clause 12 on 'having regard to the Christian character of the Academy and its foundation' will take part in worship.

### **Nature of Worship**

Collective Worship and assembly are not the same, although it is usual for an act of worship to take place during an assembly, either as part of the assembly or its entirety.

Collective worship is defined as worship appropriate to a group of individuals, possessing a range of beliefs, believers and non-believers. During worship we aim to learn about and praise God. It therefore involves us gathering together to express feelings of respect and worth for ourselves, others, our local community and our world as gifts from God. It is a time when children can celebrate their social and academic achievements and a time to foster positive values held at the Academy, the local community and the wider world.

### **Aims**

Collective Worship at Cleadon Church of England Academy will:

- ◆ meet the legal requirements
- ◆ highlight and nurture the spiritual dimension through experience of worship
- ◆ be an experience which is enjoyable, meaningful and has educational value for all pupils
- ◆ enable pupils to make use of silence as a time for reflection, contemplation, meditation, and prayer
- ◆ celebrate and express those Christian beliefs and values which bind all within the Academy community
- ◆ enable pupils to become aware of the many questions which relate to life
- ◆ provide a common focus for the Academy and community
- ◆ celebrate achievements, special occasions and special events in relation to individual pupils within the Academy, to the Academy as a whole, or to the wider community
- ◆ acknowledge and pay respect to difference and diversity
- ◆ explore and share the beliefs of others
- ◆ allow children an opportunity to appreciate the use of symbolism and religious language to express feelings and belief
- ◆ encourage respect and care for God's creation

### **Objectives**

Collective Worship at Cleadon Church of England Academy will be a stimulating and enjoyable experience in which children can develop their own beliefs, values and attitudes. We intend to achieve this by providing children with opportunities to:

- Develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around them.
- Develop a spiritual dimension to their lives and personal relationships.
- Experience thanksgiving and to enjoy the unity which derives from sharing love, joy, hope, friendship, acceptance, anguish, fear and forgiveness.

- Develop awareness and concern for the needs of others as well as personal needs.
- Encounter beliefs, prayers, symbols and songs from the Anglican tradition in an appropriate manner.
- Reflect on and think more deeply about important issues.
- Respond through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered.
- Celebrate the Festivals and Saints days of the church year.
- Share in church life and Christian practice.
- Affirm values and commitment and reinforce positive attitudes throughout the Academy.

### **Entitlement**

At Cleadon Church of England Academy we believe that collective worship is an important part of every child's spiritual development and all pupils regardless of race, gender, physical or academic ability are entitled to participate. Every attempt is made, therefore to ensure that materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities and interests.

### **Staff Development**

Training is provided for staff from a number of providers including: LA, Diocese, National Society.

### **Children with SEND**

Cleadon Church of England Academy takes into account pupils of different ages and abilities when organising its Collective Worship programme. It ensures that the content is thought-provoking for every pupil, regardless of their academic ability. Collective Worship is totally inclusive.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Our Academy worship is about sharing what is meaningful and significant in our lives. It is about sharing common concerns and responsibilities and developing positive attitudes and values. It is about affirming the equality of each individual in God's sight, whatever a child's gender, ethnicity, physical or mental ability.

### **Links with Spiritual Development**

Collective Worship can contribute to spiritual development as follows:

- ◆ it can celebrate all that is good and express thankfulness for the joy of being alive
- ◆ it can provide an opportunity to reflect on experience and to search for meaning in that experience
- ◆ it can stimulate a sense of awe and wonder
- ◆ it can give time for silent reflection and exploration of inner space
- ◆ it can provide opportunities for pupils to share what is meaningful and significant to them, including the 'darker' side of life
- ◆ it can help value a non-material dimension to life
- ◆ it can give time for reflection on their own beliefs and values, and those of others

### **Collective Worship can contribute to Moral Development as follows:**

- ◆ it can help promote an understanding of the difference between right and wrong
- ◆ it can promote respect for people and property
- ◆ it can help pupils to appreciate how their actions can affect others

### **Collective Worship can contribute to Social Development as follows:**

- ◆ it gives the opportunity to celebrate together

### **Collective Worship can contribute to Cultural Development as follows:**

- ◆ the celebration of own and others' religious and cultural traditions

### **Planning and Record Keeping**

Planning for Collective Worship is completed each half-term by the Worship Subject Lead.

The themes used are linked with the curriculum wherever possible and take into account the Church calendar.

Currently, the Academy is using a new scheme of worship, 'Simply Collective Worship'.

### **Assessment and Review/Evaluation**

The acts of worship will be evaluated informally by the Principal, subject lead, Church School Council, parents and staff on a weekly basis. Worship will be monitored to ensure that: -

- Agreed and planned content is being covered.
- A variety of approach and methodology are used.
- High standards and quality are maintained.
- Staff have been well supported by the worship team – Principal, worship lead and Academy clergy.
- Worship has been led by a variety of leaders.
- Evaluation of parent and pupils reactions.

The music to be used in Collective Worship will also be carefully planned. Members of the Board of Directors are also periodically invited to attend Collective Worship and contribute towards this evaluation. Once a year, all pupils are audited to ascertain their views on the worship provided in Academy. They are given feedback and their thoughts and ideas adopted where possible.

### **Organisation and Management**

The Lead for Collective Worship is Mrs. J. Gray.

Worship takes place in the Academy every day and in church on special occasions. The Academy visits All Saints Church at Christmas, Easter, Harvest and other

special occasions as they arise. Year 6 children attend the Diocesan Leavers' Service in Durham Cathedral to share worship with other Diocesan schools and academies; this is led by the Diocesan Board of Education. Pupils join with other schools from the Deanery for a special Advent service each year.

The children are encouraged to lead and participate in worship. They have access to all resources and time to prepare to ensure confidence. This can include providing prayers, plays, dance, rap or leading the whole worship.

Representatives of outside agencies eg *Salvation Army*, *Help the Aged* , Dr. Barnardos are often invited to lead worship .

At Cleadon Church of England Academy the focus of worship will be Christian and in accordance with the Trust Deed. It will reflect the traditions of the Church of England.

Worship is organised as follows:

		<b>Venue</b>	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Leader</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Whole School	Hall	Introduction to theme of the week	Rev. Vernon
<b>Tuesday</b>	Key Stage 1 9.00am	Social Display	Thought for the Day 2, followed by a short Hymn Practice	KS1 staff on rota
	Key Stage 2 10.15am			KS2 staff on rota
<b>Wednesday</b>	KS1 9.00am	Social Display	Thought for the Day 3	Mrs. Gray
	KS2 3.00pm	Social Display	Celebration worship (Thought for the Day 3 to be delivered at some point over the day)	House captains
<b>Thursday</b>	Key Stage 1	Social Display	Celebration worship (Thought for the Day 4 to be delivered at some point over the day)	rota
	Key Stage 2	Classrooms	Thought for the Day 4	All staff
<b>Friday</b>	Key Stage 2	Social Display 9am	Class led Worship or Thought for the Day 5( delivered later if not at this point)	Mrs Gray
	Key Stage 1	Social Display 10am	Class led Worship or Thought for the Day 5( delivered later if not at this point)	Mr Scott

## Content

The children are expected to come into the hall, or other worship area, quietly. Music is used to help create a reflective atmosphere. The title of the music and the composer is displayed for the children. A candle is lit and there may be other objects to act as a focus for the children.

There will be times when the worship is quiet, contemplative and serene and at other times it will involve loud music, laughter and dance. A balanced programme will provide a varied format of prayers, readings, songs, drama and other activities as well as drawing on the wealth of liturgical material which is part of the Christian tradition of worship. The Bible is used as a source book for inspiration and learning. A clear end to the time for worship is indicated by the worship candle being extinguished. Any 'assembly' notices or announcements are kept separate from worship.

### Components:

- ◆ story: from Christianity – from other faith traditions – novels – storybooks – children's fiction – biographies – 'true-life
- ◆ music: - song – traditional, hymns, carols, chants, folksong, children's songs  
recorded music – anything and everything  
performance – as accompaniment – 'recital'
- ◆ drama, dance: prepared – improvised
- ◆ film, video, radio
- ◆ art: slides – picture – sculpture
- ◆ prayer: - formal, traditional – Lord's Prayer, Grace Prayers learnt or listened to from the Christian tradition – ASB, Collects, Celtic, other Academy/pupil prayers  
– arising from work or thoughts prepared in advance or elicited during worship  
- silence – meditation - reflection  
developing the skill of inwardness
- ◆ pupil involvement – taking a lead/musical/drama and role play