



# Langley Mill Church of England Infant School and Nursery



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Always our best for God, each other and ourselves

**This policy has been impact assessed in the light of all other school policies and the Equality Act 2010.**

Written / Reviewed by	Date	Approved by GB		Minute Number		Next Review Date
Claire Jones	March 2024	26/03/2024		GB260324 10.12		March 2025
		Changes Made		New Version		
Claire Jones	March 25	Yes	No	Yes	No	March 26

# **Langley Mill Church of England (Controlled) Infant School and Nursery**

## **Collective Worship Policy**

### **Introduction**

The staff and governors of Langley Mill Church of England (Controlled) Infant School and Nursery, in partnership with the Diocese of Derby, aim to enable children to develop as honest, caring and thoughtful members of both the school and wider communities. We believe that they should understand the difference between right and wrong and know that each person is a unique individual whose well-being is important to all.

### **Aims for Collective Worship**

- To contribute to the understanding and meaning of the Christian Faith.
- To promote Christian values through experience.
- To provide a suitable environment and atmosphere.
- To encourage participation, including reflecting on their own experiences.
- To foster a sense of belonging.
- To celebrate the achievements and values of our school community.
- To celebrate the achievements of the local community and the wider world.
- To encourage children to value their own traditions and respect and value those of others.

### **The nature and purpose of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is distinct from meeting together to exchange information or deal with organisational issues, although all these aspects may together form assembly. Worship involves us gathering together to learn about and to praise God, and to express feelings of worth and respect for ourselves, others, our local community and our world as gifts from God. The involvement of children, e.g. through drama and music, is central to our worship. Stillness and quiet are essential elements of our time together and enable all participants to develop awareness of the purpose of this special time.

### **Statutory Requirements for Collective Worship**

Collective Worship at Langley Mill complies with our Trust Deed and the legal requirements set out in the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that *“Collective Worship must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character which means that it reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief”*. Thus, in this Church of England Voluntary Controlled School, Collective Worship is in conformity with the ethos and rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England.

### **Key content of Collective Worship sessions**

Each day we will promote our overarching whole school vision which is:

***‘Always our best for God, each other and ourselves’***

***~ ‘Whatever the activity in which you engage, do it with all your ability ...’ Ecclesiastes 9:10***

We aim to achieve our vision through helping everyone in our school community:

Realise the Church of England’s Vision for Education	Educating for hope and aspiration:			Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills:		Educating for dignity and respect:		Educating for community and living well together:		
	Enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.			Enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life		The basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.		A core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.		
Grow in the four Langley Mill Foundations	Aspire			Learn		Respect		Serve		
Show Christian Values in their thoughts, words and actions	Compassion	Cooperation	Courage	Creativity	Forgiveness	Friendship	Generosity	Hope	Humility	Kindness
	Joy	Justice	Love	Peace	Perseverance	Respect	Responsibility	Trust	Truthfulness	Wisdom
Display Fundamental British Values	Democracy			Rule of Law		Individual Liberty		Mutual respect and tolerance		
Become Good Learners	Be motivated		Be independent		Be curious		Listen		Think	

Through exploring the above vision and values, we will also teach key beliefs and aspects of the Christian faith such as:

- God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Trinity)
- We are all part of God's family
- The Bible contains stories about God's love
- Jesus gave us lots of guidance on how to live our lives
- The symbols of Christianity
- The cycle of the Church Year
- The life of Jesus from birth to death
- Christian celebrations of Harvest, Advent and Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Easter, Pentecost and Ascension.

## Arrangements for the daily act of Collective Worship

The provision of Collective Worship conforms to Diocesan policy.

There is a daily act of collective worship that is according to the faith and practice of the Church of England. It takes place every day: on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 10.40am and Friday at 9.00am, and lasts for approximately between 15-30 minutes. The content takes into account the age, aptitude and family circumstances of the children.

### Setting the scene for Collective Worship:

- The collective worship board shows the entrance music, greeting, cloth colour, song and blessing to be used/said each day.
- There is a collective worship team who helps to plan the entrance music, greeting, song, prayer and blessing with the RE and CW subject lead with the daily act of worship.
- The collective worship team then help the lead to set up for the session and help with the entrance music, greeting, song, prayer and blessing.
- Each act of worship begins with children and staff entering the hall, listening to the entrance music and sitting so that everyone can see.
- The person leading the worship sits/stands at the front with the collective worship table and box.
- A member of the collective worship team welcomes everyone with the set greeting.
- The worship box is opened, and the special cloth (aligned to the colours of the church year) is taken out and spread carefully on the table, while singing:

*(Tune: Here we go round the mulberry bush)*



Ordinary Time	26 May 2024 – 23 Nov 2024	Green
Christ the King	24 Nov 2024 – 30 Nov 2024	White
Advent	1 Dec 2024 – 24 Dec 2024	Purple
Christmas & Epiphany	25 Dec 2024 – 8 Feb 2025	White or Gold
After Epiphany	9 Feb 2025 – 4 March 2025	Green
Lent	5 March 2025 – 18 April 2025	Purple
Easter tide	19 April 2025 – 7 June 2025	White or Gold
Pentecost	8 June 2025	Red
Ordinary time	15 June 2025 – 22 Nov 2025	Green
Christ the King	23 Nov 2025 – 29 Nov 2025	White
Saints Days	St David – March 1, St Patrick – March 17, St George – April 23, St Andrew – Nov 30	Red

Here is the cloth for worship time,  
Let's all be still for worship time,  
Here is the cloth for worship time,  
What will we learn today?

- The Bible, cross and candle are then taken out of the worship box and placed on the worship table by a member of the collective worship team, with the following words recited each day:

**Leader:** We take out the **Bible** and open it as we think about

**Children:** God the Father

**Leader:** We take out the **cross** and put it in the centre as we think about

**Children:** God's son Jesus

**Leader:** We take out the **candle** and light it as we think about

**Children:** God the Holy Spirit

- Each act of worship includes thinking time, listening time, reflecting time and prayer time.

### Organisation and Presentation

- The school vision "**Always our best for God, each other, and ourselves**" and the four Langley Mill Foundations of **Aspire, Learn, Respect and Serve** drive the content of daily collective worship sessions. During autumn 1, there is a local area focus on four past industries of Langley Mill (Flour Mill, Pottery, Vic Hallam and Aristoc) and the Church mice that lived there.
- Christian celebrations/festivals are covered where appropriate in the school year. Some are celebrated in the local churches, with parents/carers invited to join in.
- Local clergy and other visitors attend/lead collective worship on Wednesday mornings and are invited to school to take part in school celebrations.
- Collective Worship is led by a different member of the teaching staff each day.
- Other visitors are also invited to enhance the collective worship programme as appropriate e.g. Valley CIDS.
- The school holds a special service in school for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' each year.

### Provision is as follows:

- **MONDAY:** Bible stories, stories from different religions and other resources that are linked to Langley Mill Foundations: Aspire, Learn, Respect, Serve or relevant Church season/Christian festival or key school, local or national events. **Autumn 1 focus on Church Mice and Langley Mill Flour Mill (no visitors).**
- **TUESDAY:** Bible stories, stories from different religions and other resources that are linked to Langley Mill Foundations: Aspire, Learn, Respect, Serve or relevant Church season/Christian festival or key school, local or national events. **Autumn 1 focus on Church Mice and Langley Mill Pottery (no visitors).**
- **WEDNESDAY:** Bible stories, stories from different religions and other resources that are linked to Langley Mill Foundations: Aspire, Learn, Respect, Serve or relevant Church season/Christian festival or key school, local or national events. **Autumn 1 focus on Church Mice and Vic Hallam (no visitors).**
- **THURSDAY:** Bible stories, stories from different religions and other resources that are linked to Langley Mill Foundations: Aspire, Learn, Respect, Serve or relevant Church season/Christian festival or key school, local or national events. **Autumn 1 focus on Church Mice and Aristoc (no visitors).**
- **FRIDAY:** Celebration worship including praise for individual children who have exemplified the school vision and four Langley Mill foundations during the week.

### Learning expectations and intended outcomes

Long term planning for collective worship is carried out by the AHT and Foundation Governors. This is translated into a medium-term plan by the AHT. Short term weekly planning is carried out by individual teachers and visitors who deliver worship, on a half-termly basis.

Collective Worship is used to contribute to the children's spiritual development so celebration, praise and hope are essential features of our worship at Langley Mill.

**We aim to:**

- Make children aware of what it means to be a community committed to serving and caring for each other, God and our environment.
- Celebrate all that is good.
- Express joy and thanks for our world.
- Provide children opportunities to share experiences.
- Give time to reflect.
- Provide an atmosphere that is different to the rest of the school day.

**SEND**

The staff and governors at Langley Mill are committed to ensuring that every child in the school will derive benefit from collective worship, whatever her or his ability. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to a range of abilities, aptitudes and interests.

**Equal Opportunities**

In sharing what is meaningful and significant in our lives, along with our common concerns, responsibilities and values, we affirm the equality of each individual, regardless of gender, creed (or lack of one), ethnicity, physical or mental ability.

**Resources**

Resources are purchased and renewed as required in line with the curriculum action plan, with an annual budget request form submitted by the collective worship leader.

Resource books are stored in the upstairs room. Bibles and other faith books are stored in the library. CDROMs and videos are stored in classroom and the hall. Signs, symbols and candles are displayed in the hall and kept in the hall storage cupboards. World faith artefact boxes are stored at the hall on the RE and CW shelves.

**Monitoring and evaluation**

The Collective Worship leader keeps the record of planning for collective worship and attends relevant training opportunities.

Foundation Governors undertake monitoring and evaluation of CW and RE.

Evaluation strategies used by staff for assessing the outcomes of collective worship are:

- observation of the children's interest level and attentiveness;
- feedback from pupils, parents/cares and visitors;
- observation of the children's general behaviour in and around school, and to one another;
- a focused half termly monitoring visit by Foundation Governors.

**Parental right of withdrawal**

We aim to ensure that collective worship is meaningful and relevant for all children and staff, for those with a faith background and those with none. Our school exerts no pressure on children to become worshipping Christians, or to participate actively in any activity that will compromise their own family

faith or lack of faith. However, Christian values are built into our ethos and are reflected in the themes of our worship.

Should parents/carers wish to exercise their right to withdraw their child from collective worship, this must be requested in writing to the Headteacher, which will then be discussed. This provision and its limitations are indicated in the school prospectus. We aim to make all children and their parents feel that attendance does not compromise their own feelings and that collective worship is an important time when the school comes together as an “extended family”. For this reason, all children and teachers are expected to attend all assemblies as a matter of course.

### **Conclusion**

At Langley Mill we offer pupils opportunities to explore and share beliefs and consider the importance of prayer, meditation and silence. We encourage them to consider the relevance of ideas, beliefs and values to their own lives, to think about the needs of others and what it means to be part of a community. The opportunity is given to put into practice the values of the school. Collective worship offers a time to celebrate achievement and worthwhile or positive behaviour, thus building up our common life.

This policy will be reviewed annually or in line with new guidelines/changes in procedure.