



Collective Worship Policy

Policy Area	Curriculum
Policy Author	J Chubb
Status	Approved
Category	School Specific
Implementation Date	Autumn 2025
Review Cycle	Biennial
Next Review Date	Autumn 2027
Related Policies/ Documents	

Document control

Date	Version	Comments
June 2023	V1	Approved
October 2025	V2	Approved

Contents

Introduction	2
Aims	2
Organisation and management	2
Worship leaders	3
Weekly programme	3
Time allocation	3
Resources	3
Withdrawal	4
Community	4

'Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.' Matthew 13:32



Introduction

At Clapham and Patching Church of England Primary School we believe it is important to meet together regularly as a community to reinforce community values and to worship together. The character of worship in the school is Christian with references to other faiths when appropriate. Collective worship is coordinated by the Head of School and a variety of themes and activities are used to ensure high quality experience for all the children.

Our assemblies are based upon our core school Christian Values of: *'community, respect, integrity, excellence and resilience'*

Aims

- To provide an opportunity for pupils to meet together as a whole school;
- to provide an opportunity to reflect on life and prayer;
- to introduce children to religious worship in a meaningful and honest way;
- to provide opportunities for pupils to encounter the rich spiritual traditions of the Anglican Church
- to guide pupils towards an understanding of their own inner spiritual lives
- to enable those pupils who want to worship God to do so;
- to encourage and develop a sense of community in the school, reinforcing the aims and ethos and celebrating the ideals and values of the school
- to aid pupils and staff in their own spiritual development by
 - creating time for peace, stillness and reflection during worship services, and
 - providing an opportunity for pupils to share their own thoughts and spiritual insights.

Organisation and management

The school holds regular assemblies where pupils meet together with their teacher, Head of School or the Parish Priest.

Within these assemblies the act of collective worship takes place.

Collective worship is co-ordinated by the Headteacher who also leads two of the assemblies each week.



A termly programme of assembly themes is produced and distributed to Reverend Helena staff and parents. This is part of the annual programme organised by the co-ordinator that includes special occasions held at various times.

All the worship in the school is of a broadly Christian character, while the content varies and will be more explicitly Christian on some days, less so on others.

We aim for our worship to be Inclusive, Invitational, and Inspiring'

Collective worship will vary in content but will usually contain a hymn, a prayer and a reading from the Bible or other literature carrying appropriate themes.

Worship leaders

There are two 'Worship Leaders' in school; one from each Key Stage. They are responsible for leading the invitation to prayer and closing the collective worship. Children are encouraged to email their thoughts and prayers to our Worship Leaders:

worshipleaders@claphamandpatching.co.uk

In addition to whole school collective worship, each day begins with a short time for reflection. This takes place in classrooms and includes lighting a candle and a class prayer. These sessions can also be led by our Worship Leaders.

Weekly programme

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Christian/British Value focus	'The Big Question' Understanding Christianity	Class worship	Singing Assembly	Celebration Assembly
Justine Chubb	Jemma Simmons		David Wooller/ Tom Doolan	Justine Chubb

Time allocation

Whole school collective worship is planned for 15 to 20 minutes each day.

Resources

A range of books, music and resources are available to support collective worship in the school, and are kept in the worship area.

Withdrawal

If parents wish to withdraw their child from Religious Education lessons and assemblies they may contact the Head of School. Suitable alternative arrangements will be made.

Community

School works closely with the local community.

Reverend Helena Buque, the Parish priest and Rural Dean of Worthing visits every month to lead collective worship in school. She also leads our termly celebration worship at either St Mary the Virgin Clapham, or St John the Divine Patching at which all families attend.

Reverend Colin Cox, Associate Vicar also attends school for celebrations and worship.

The school and church are working together to offer further opportunities to lead children (and families) to the threshold of worship through offering Messy Church and a toddler group in the Village Hall.

The school regularly takes part in events organised by the Parish such as the Festival of Flowers and the Christmas Tree Festival.



Community

John 15:12

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

Integrity

Luke 6:31

Do to others as you would have them do to you

Resilience

Luke 1:37

For nothing will be impossible with God.

Respect

Matthew 19:19

Honour your mother and father, and, you shall love your neighbour as yourself

Excellence

Colossians 3:23

Whatever you do, do it with all your heart.