



**ST. HILD'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL**

Policy Document

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

At St. Hild's Church of England School we aim provide all of our pupils with a world class education in a Christian context. We expect to find God at work in our school.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

"I have come that they may have life in all its fullness (John 10:10)"

Statement of Principles

. We believe that every human being is unique and has an entitlement to personal, social, intellectual and spiritual development and must be given an opportunity to achieve his/her potential, aspiring to "life in all its fullness(John 10:10). We aim to create a Christian ethos in which all members of our learning community are included in day to day life, are encouraged to accept personal responsibility, to be truthful and self-disciplined, to respect others and to care for the well being of other community members. We believe in respect, equality and have high expectations of all aspects of school life. We work collectively to ensure our pupils enjoy and achieve.

Aims

Collective Worship centres on the words of Jesus by both upholding and exploring the core Christian values of the school: care, respect, responsibility, honesty and equality and supporting the Department of Educations' Aim for Collective Worship:

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.

It is the aspiration of St Hild's Church of England School, as a Eucharistic community, to reflect worship in its broadest sense; living a life of worship. We will seek to create opportunities that are inclusive and mutually respectful, where talents can be both celebrated and nourished, where aspirations can be raised, where hope can be given and community built. In order to realise these aspirations the school is committed to:

Worship which broadly reflects the understanding of worship within the Church of England, where individuals are encouraged to meet in community to:consider the

bible; ; to reflect on issues relating to daily life and their moral and spiritual wellbeing; to join in public and private prayer; to share in the Eucharist; to develop a concern for the needs of others; to consider fundamental questions of eternal significance

Maintaining an integrity between the content and conduct of school worship and the ethos of the whole school. . Collective Worship will contribute to upholding good mental health, building self-reflection and transcendence in participants. The School aims to promote the message of the Gospel through worship that is orderly and reflective, challenging and participatory in nature.

Clear organisation and planning of Collective Worship in weekly themes reflecting liturgical seasons. Recognising that “the Earth is the Lord’s and everything in it” (Psalm 24:1), current topics and curriculum links will also inform the planning of Collective Worship. .

Providing daily opportunities for pupils to reflect individually on spiritual issues. This is achieved through ‘Thought for the Day’ which is presented in Registration, Year Group Meetings and Collective Worship. ‘Thought for the Day’ should provide the encouragement for individuals to take time to reflect on the personal and spiritual significance of the issues being considered.

The importance of staff and pupils in the development of a whole-school ethos where they can share together in worship to support the promotion of Christian values. The worship of the school will foster a spirit of inclusiveness and mutuality – pupils and staff will be given opportunity to participate fully and take a lead in acts of worship, and to inform the evaluation of, and forward planning of worship.

Ensuring adequate support and resourcing for those leading Collective Worship and securing a high-profile for the place of worship in school life. Recognising God’s gifting and leading, pupils who feel compelled will be invited to become Worship Leaders. There is an expectation that each tutor group will lead an act of worship at least once within the school year.

Ensuring appropriate time and space is given to enable regular year group – and whole school – Collective Worship. This is undertaken with the understanding and intention that worship is by no means limited to a ‘usual’ venue or space and may include buildings beyond the school.

Parameters

Supporting the commitment of the Church to ecumenism and In keeping with an inclusive ethos and way of building community, the school seeks to support where possible ecumenical collaboration with the Christian denominations represented in Hartlepool and the world wide Anglican Communion

Worship will be conducted with sensitivity to the fact that different Christian denominations and other religious groups may be represented amongst the pupils and staff of the school, respecting the integrity of all the religious communities from which pupils and staff may come. It is expected that all staff will actively demonstrate their support for the faith tradition of the school by participating in worship as their duties permit.

Records of school worship are kept and held on school premises; these can be made available to parents/carers on request. The School’s Lay Chaplain and Faith

Coordinator has responsibility for keeping an up-to-date record of worship material as used in school.

Parents' Right to Withdraw

Parents/carers have a legal right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. Where parents/carers choose to remove their child/ren from acts of worship the school will follow such procedures as are necessary to give those children purposeful activity, should written notification requesting their child be withdraw from worship be received from parents/carers..

Implementation and Review

Ensuring that the School's Policy on Collective Worship be in accordance with any existing Diocesan Policy on Collective Worship in Anglican Schools. The School's Lay Chaplain and Faith Coordinator will have responsibility for checking that this requirement is met, whilst Governors ensure the policy is implemented accurately.

An annual review of this Policy Document is undertaken by the School's Lay Chaplain and Faith Coordinator, in light of Local Authority, Diocesan, National Society and Governmental policy on Collective Worship.

Collective Worship Policy
Linked to <input type="checkbox"/> Equality in Employment Policy <input type="checkbox"/> British Values Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Ethos Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Statement <input type="checkbox"/> R E Policy

Signed(Headteacher)	Review Date : March 2018
Signed (Chair of Governors)	

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