



<b>Policy Title</b>	<b>COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY</b>
Committee responsible	Ethos & Curriculum
Last reviewed	March 2023
Next review due	March 2026
Who is governed by this policy	All staff and pupils at the school
Available on website	<b>YES</b>

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

## 1. Philosophy

Warnham C of E Primary School is a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School. Worship is therefore an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a family. It is attended by all pupils and staff every day throughout the week. Any visitors in school are always welcome to join us.

## 2. Collective Worship and the Law

The legal requirement for Church schools ensures that every child in the school is entitled to an opportunity for daily worship. The *School Standards and Framework Act 1998* states

“The arrangements for the required collective worship may, in respect of each school day, provide for a single act of worship for all pupils or for separate acts of worship for pupils in different age groups or different school groups.”

Parents are made aware that the school is a church school and as such Collective Worship will be based on the foundations and principles of the Church of England. The governing body are aware of their legal responsibilities and are clear about upholding the Christian foundation of the school. The Christian ethos and foundation of the school is also made clear to staff on appointment.

## 3. Aims of Collective Worship

It is our aim at Warnham CEP School that worship should:

- Offer opportunities to worship God
- Underpin the Christian ethos and values of the school
- Show appreciation for the God given gifts and talents of the school community
- Introduce pupils to the practices and traditions of the Church of England
- Celebrate the special occasions in the church year and the life of the community
- Offer opportunities to share worship with parents, governors and the local community
- Be inclusive and an occasion where each individual's integrity is respected
- Offer opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Offer opportunities to relate faith to good citizenship

## 4. Responsibility for Collective Worship

The governors have overall responsibility for ensuring that the statutory requirements for worship are met. The headteacher has responsibility for organising and planning the worship. Clergy are involved in the planning and preparation of worship in school, especially school services and communions, and active participation of pupils is encouraged.

## 5. Evaluation and Monitoring

Collective worship is carefully planned. It is evaluated and monitored by those leading worship, other staff, pupils for whom the worship is intended and by members of the governing body. Feedback from any of these groups is used to help improve the quality of worship.

Ethos & Curriculum Committee, particularly foundation governors, have responsibility for monitoring collective worship at the school and have a key role in this process to ensure that legal requirements are met and that worship is of the highest quality.

## **6. Rights of Withdrawal**

At Warnham CEP School we aim to be an inclusive community, however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship should they wish. The school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the headteacher.

The school has a system of suitable supervision for pupils withdrawn from Collective Worship although no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the headteacher, in voluntary controlled schools have the right of withdrawal from acts of collective worship, but the headteacher, should he or she wish to exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship in our school.