



Stanley St Andrew's Church of England Primary School

Policy on Collective Worship

As a church school we believe that every person, every child and every adult is unique and special with God given gifts and talents which is our job to nurture and cherish.

Vision

We inspire all children to flourish by sharing their individual light during a life of fullness within God's love of all.

We aim to develop happy, confident, loving and caring children who look after and value themselves, each other and their world. We ensure every child feels valued and flourishes with their unique personalities and talents in all that they choose to do.

We are an inclusive school and our vision, though distinctively Christian, welcomes and values all faiths and cultures within our diverse school community. Our school's core values of happiness, peace, truth, respect, teamwork, dedication, trust and love sit at the heart of our school community and underpin every aspect of school life.

Happiness: "The Lord is my strength and shield. I trust him with all my heart. He helps me, and my heart is filled with joy. I burst out in songs of thanksgiving." (Psalm 28:7)

Peace: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." God. (Matthew 5:9)

Truth: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." (John 1:8)

Respect: "Treat others as you want to be treated." (Luke 6:31)

Teamwork: "If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up." (Ecclesiastes 4:10)

Dedication: "So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the LORD" (Samuel 1:28)

Trust: "Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you." (Psalms 9:10)

Love: "Do everything with love." (Corinthians 16:14)

Legal Framework:

This policy has due regard to statutory legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- The School Standards and Framework Act 1998

This policy also has due regard to guidance, including, but not limited to the following:

- DfE (1994) Religious Education and Collective Worship

Definition of Collective Worship:

For the purpose of this policy, “Collective Worship” is an act which is additional to and separate from ordinary school activities. Collective Worship is a time when individuals collaborate to promote the Christian values which are fundamental to the school’s vision and ethos. Collective Worship should evoke responses from pupils even though they may not feel able to actively identify in the act of Worship on a particular occasion.

Aims:

Collective Worship at Stanley St. Andrew’s aims to:

The aims and objectives of collective worship are:

- Be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.
- Develop the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school.
- Enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues, as well as explore their own beliefs.
- Enable children to appreciate Christian worship in different ways, for example using music, story, prayer and reflection.
- Be distinctively Christian in content and follow the liturgical calendar.
- Enable children to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their own understanding of Christian beliefs.
- Encourage participation and response via active involvement in the worship offered.
- Provide children with the opportunity to plan, lead or contribute to Collective Worship.
- Provide a peaceful environment to enable calmness, prayer and reflection.
- Help children to develop an awareness of their own community and community spirit.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each individual’s views, thoughts and feelings whether religious or not.

Organisation and planning:

The RE leader is responsible for creating the agenda and timetable for Collective Worship. Collective Worship is held daily for 20 minutes from 1:05pm until 1:25pm Monday to Friday. The school aims to deliver a varied Collective Worship programme to Children. The staff move topics so that each member of staff gains experience in leading different types of worship as well as offers children different experiences of worship. The current schedule is outlined in the table below:

Days of the week:	Delivery of Collective Worship
Monday	Whole-school worship is delivered by Clergy (Mandela room).
Tuesday Music Worship	Whole-school singing is delivered by class teacher. Prayer and reflection time is included at the end of the hymn practise (Mandela room).

Wednesday Current Affairs	Whole-school worship is delivered by RE lead (Mandela room).
Thursday Root & Fruits	Whole-school worship is delivered by class teacher (Mandela room).
Friday Celebration of School Values	Whole-school awards worship is delivered by Yr 6 pupils (Mandela room).

Collective Worship in School

<u>Focus</u>	<u>Monday</u> <u>Led by</u> <u>clergy</u>	<u>Tuesday</u> <u>CW</u> <u>through</u> <u>music</u>	<u>Wednesday</u> <u>Current affairs</u>	<u>Thursday</u> <u>Roots and</u> <u>Fruits</u>	<u>Friday</u> <u>Celebration</u> <u>Collective</u> <u>Worship</u>
<u>Autumn 1</u> Respect	Bible based worship	Hymn practise	What's in the news?	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week
<u>Autumn 2</u> Dedication and Peace	Bible based worship	Hymn practise	What's in the news?	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week
<u>Spring 1</u> Truth and Love	Bible based worship	Hymn practise	Leaders to lead the Collective Worship based on courage	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week
<u>Spring 2</u> Happiness	Bible based worship	Hymn practise	What's in the news?	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week
<u>Summer 1</u> Happiness and trust	Bible based worship	Hymn practise	What's in the news?	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week
<u>Summer 2</u> Teamwork	Bible based worship	Class worship to build class identity.	What's in the news?	Roots and Fruits	Celebration and reflection upon the week

The following resources are used to aid planning and teaching:



(Discovery Education Expresso)

Using the above resource, daily news is shared, explored and linked to Christian values, Global citizenship and British values. The children have the opportunity to find out what is happening in wider communities in the UK and around the world.



(Published by Imaginor)

Using the above resource, twelve Christian values are explored and linked to Global citizenship and British values over two year period. Rooted in Bible teaching, each half-term value represents the fruit that grows as the teaching is lived out in everyday life. We use Collective Worship as an opportunity to apply these values to our school's vision of happiness, peace, truth, respect, teamwork, dedication, trust and love. This promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural growth of each individual in a collaborative way.

The twelve values explored are:

- Friendship
- Compassion
- Respect (core school value)
- Courage
- Forgiveness
- Generosity
- Justice
- Service
- Perseverance
- Thankfulness
- Trust (core school value)
- Truthfulness (core school value)

Throughout the year, children also learn about the Christian festivals including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. Festivals and celebrations of different faiths are also explored and celebrated such as, the Chinese New Year, Diwali and Saints day.

At times throughout the year classes may hold their own Class Worship which allows opportunities for children to be involved in Collective Worship in a more intimate way and to develop a class identity. The theme relates to that being covered in whole school worships. Class Collective Worship are recorded and placed in the Collective Worship book.

At Stanley St. Andrews we recognise children learn in different ways and so Collective Worship is delivered differently ensuring all children can access Collective Worship such as, puppet storytelling and much more. Our Collective Worship is made up of four parts which are:

- Gathering (seeing and greeting)
- Engage (creed, word)
- Responding (remembering our connection to God)
- Sending (Sharing God's peace out into the world)

The Year 6 Collective Worship leads use the four headers to record each Collective Worship in our whole school book.

The Year 6 Collective Worship leads prepare each classroom for Collective Worship before the allocated start time. This consists of moving furniture in two of the classrooms to ensure all children are sat comfortably on the floor and in the third classroom used furniture is arranged to allow every child to again sit comfortably. The leads then set up the worship table at the front for all children to see which consists of the table being covered with a cloth that matches the Christian Church

Calendar and over the top; we have a long cloth with each of our school values on it that each class created. On the worship table we place three candles to remind us of the Holy Trinity and an additional two candles to represent our school link in India Dum Dum. Next to the candles is a wooden owl to represent our school community and a metal cross to remind us of the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

Collective Worship begins when the music is played and the classes are led into the classroom. Each child is greeted by the Yr 6 Collective Worship lead. Collective worship is officially started by the Yr6 leads lighting of the candles and welcome words. The timetabled person will then lead their planned Collective Worship session. Collective Worship comes to end by the one of the leads selecting a prayer stick and leading a prayer for the child whose name is on the stick. The child will then come to the front to blow out the candles, music is then put on to for the classes to lead out to.

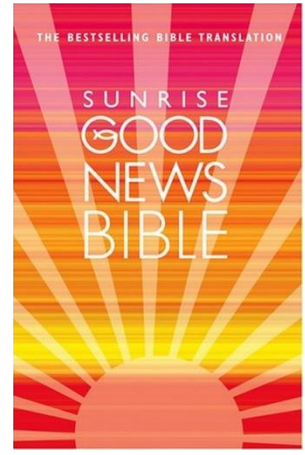
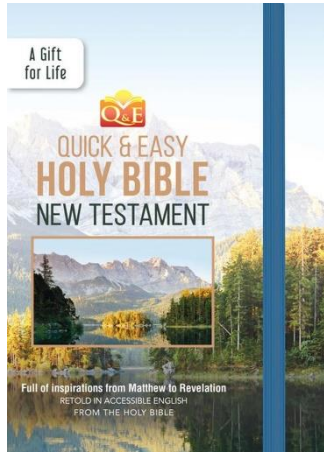
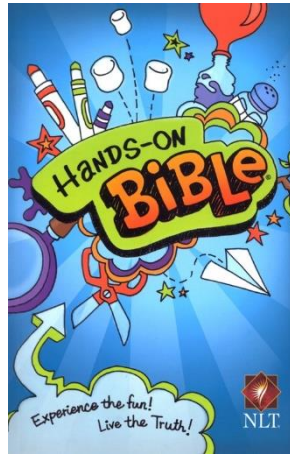
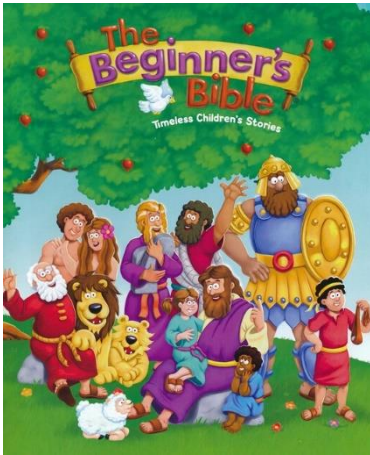
The two display boards in the cloakroom are updated on a regular basis. The half-termly value is reinforced through a communication in print, image and photograph, as well as other accompanying pieces of work or images for example:



Children are encouraged to take some time to reflect on the Collective Worship shared all week and then on a Friday are given time to write, draw or verbally share their reflections these are then placed in the green bag on the Collective Worship display and later shared in Collective Worship and placed in our book.

We have a thoughts box where we encourage children, parents and staff to share their prayers with us and they will be selected and read in Collective Worship. Positive attitudes to prayer are modelled by all staff and all children are expected to behave in a quiet and respectful way. Each class has a lunch time and the end of the day prayer. Children are invited to say 'Amen' if they wish. Staff sometimes use different approaches to prayer such as, silence, reflection or moving prayer. The children regularly visit church for services lead by Clergy and staff.

We encourage the use of Bibles within Collective Worship to encourage the development of Bible skills and appreciation. We have a range of Bibles within school so all ages can access a Bible no matter what their language development. We have enough Bibles of each variety for one between two:



Values in action:

Collective Worship gives opportunities for reflection and growth that contributes to the development of positive self-esteem and well-being. It allows children and staff to apply stories, thoughts and prayers to their own experiences and to develop a positive response to situations they may encounter. As a diverse family, we value and celebrate a variety of festivals and learn about different faiths. This facilitates learning about each other's cultures and beliefs and so, helps to develop positive British values. Each week we celebrate children living out these values by awarding a certificate to a pupil from each class per week who has demonstrated the value.

Right to withdraw:

As a Church of England school, Collective Worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have a legal right to withdraw their children from all part of worship. Before making the decision to exercise that right parents/carers are encouraged to discuss the issues with the Head Teacher to establish:

- The elements of worship in which the parent/carer would object to the child taking part.
- The practical implications of withdrawal.
- Whether the parent/carer will require notice in advance of such worship, and if so, what period of notice is preferred.

Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND):

The school will take into account children of different ages and abilities when delivering the Collective Worship programme. The school will arrange for staff to assist children with SEND if the need is required.

Evaluation and monitoring:

The Collective Worship and RE lead attends regular training provided by the Diocese, which are valuable sources of information and opportunity to network with other coordinators. Whole school and class worship recording sheets are given to the Yr6 Collective Worship leaders who provided them to staff. Collective Worship is monitored by the Head Teacher, RE lead and Governors to

ensure that they promote our Church of England school ethos and meet our aims as above. The monitoring can take different forms, such as a written observation or a survey.

Policy Review

This policy was reviewed in January 2024 by the Collective Worship Leader and our Foundation Governors in accordance with our schools' policy delegation schedule.

It will next be reviewed in January 2026.

We will review this policy earlier than the scheduled review date should there be any change in guidance or legislation related to this policy or should we feel that an earlier review is necessary.

This policy will be evaluated in accordance with feedback from questionnaires and class discussions. Any changes made to this policy and the Collective Worship programme will be communicated to all members of staff and governors.