

# North Rigton CE Primary School

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Issue number	Author	Date written	Approved by Governing Body	Comments
1	S Honey	Sept 2025		
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### OUR SCHOOL VISION

**GROW**

**BLOSSOM**

**FLOURISH**

At North Rigton Church of England Primary School we believe that everyone can GROW, BLOSSOM and FLOURISH

**OUR SCHOOL VALUES**

of

COMPASSION, INDEPENDENCE, RESPECT, KOINONIA, POSITIVITY and PERSEVERANCE

are the roots which are grown in

A nurturing and inclusive environment  
A challenging and inspiring curriculum  
High quality teaching and learning

The Parable of the Mustard Seed  
Mark Chapter 4, verses 30—32

### THE NORTH RIGTON TREE

When our behaviour, attitudes and personal development are:

**FLOURISHING** you will see us *creating opportunities to demonstrate our commitment to our values.*

**BLOSSOMING** you will see us *using the values consistently to support our behaviour choices.*

**GROWING** you will see us *trying to use the values to support our behaviour choices.*

**KOINONIA**

**POSITIVITY**

**PERSEVERANCE**

When the quality of our learning is:

**FLOURISHING** you will see us *revising, reviewing, reflecting, justifying and demonstrating. Connecting our knowledge across space and time.*

**BLOSSOMING** you will see us *using, applying and experimenting. Remembering and linking our knowledge over time.*

**GROWING** you will see us *practising and repeating key skills and recalling key facts.*

**Our six VALUES are the roots of our learning and our behaviour.**

**COMPASSION**

**RESPECT**

**INDEPENDENCE**

Collective Worship in a Church school should enable every child and adult to flourish and to live life in all its fullness. It will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect, and developing community and understanding of living well together.

## **Policy Statement**

In North Rigton Primary School worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. It is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A school is not a Church but is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of education. The family backgrounds may be very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils.

At North Rigton Primary School collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship, pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian (*and other faiths*<sup>1</sup>) calendar. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

## **Legal Requirements**

There must be a daily act of collective worship in all maintained schools for all pupils, other than those in a nursery class or a nursery school. This can take place at any time in the school day and in any groupings. Collective worship in a Church of England School must be in accordance with the tenets and practices of the Church of England. Worship in North Rigton Primary School should be distinctly Christian and reflect Anglican traditions.

The governing body have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact of worship on the school community in consultation with the headteacher.

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<sup>1</sup> Collective Worship in a CoFE school must be in alignment with the religious foundation of the school (Christian), however there is a responsibility for schools in all contexts to mark, respond and learn from the festivals of other faiths. This may be designated as a separate act, not to be conflated with collective worship.

## **The Right of Withdrawal**

In North Rigton Primary School there are significant numbers of children whose families are members of another faith, or who hold a non- religious world view. Part of the distinctively Christian nature of Church of England Schools is that they should be as hospitable and inclusive to all in the community they serve. As collective worship occupies such a central place in the life of the Church school, this should be made clear on induction, and it is hoped that parents will be making a specific choice of the school knowing that the distinctive ethos will determine a Christian tradition within collective worship.

The 1944 and 1988 Education Acts state that parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

## **Guiding Principles**

Collective worship in North Rigton Primary School aims to:

- Have a pivotal place in the life of the school.
- Support pupils and adults in their spiritual growth
- Be the central vehicle by which the school's vision is unpacked and explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to observe and/or respond to the presence, power and peace of God as understood by Christians. This will always be invitational, offering an opportunity to take part whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity.
- Support pupils in the development of their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.
- Help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well know Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes and home time.
- Offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of the local church community. Pupils will be at the centre of this process taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading worship.
- Ensure that materials and themes for worship are carefully selected to make sure pupils understand the work of Christians and the church locally, nationally and globally and how this reflects the teachings of the Bible and the example of Jesus.

## **Development of the Policy and Links to Other Policies and Documentation**

We ensure that the principles for collective worship are reflected and applied in our policies and practice including those that are concerned with:

- Pupils' personal development and wellbeing
- SMSC and PSHE
- Staff recruitment, retention and professional development
- Care, guidance and support
- Behaviour, discipline and exclusions
- Working in partnership with parents, carers and guardians
- Working with the wider community

We also ensure that information about collective worship is included in the school prospectus and / or on the school website.

## **How Collective Worship is Organised**

Daily worship is led by different people e.g. the headteacher, a member of staff, a pupil or small group of pupils, a whole class, a member of the clergy or local church, individual visitors or teams e.g. Open the Book. On occasions our worship will be held off the school premises e.g. St John's Church.

Monday: Collective Worship led by class teachers

Tuesday: Singing Worship led by the Assistant Headteacher

Wednesday: Fellowship Collective Worship (Teams)

Thursday: Collective Worship led by the Headteacher

Friday: Celebration Collective Worship led by the Headteacher

## ***Appendix: Collective Worship - Grow Blossom Flourish document***

## **Planning**

In planning for collective worship, the following should be considered:

- How worship reflects the cycle of the Church year
- How Christian values of the school are identified, expressed and celebrated through collective worship
- How explicit links are made between Bible stories and the Christian values of the school
- How the liturgical structure of worship used reflects Anglican tradition
- Is there a varied and appropriate range of materials being used, including websites, artefacts, stories, drama scripts, artwork, music, songs, film clips, focal points e.g. a picture or candle
- Are there opportunities for children and adults to explore faith in today's world
- How the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God is explored
- Are there opportunities for spiritual growth through prayer, stillness and reflection.

## **Staff Development and Training**

We ensure that all staff, including support staff, receive appropriate training and opportunities for professional development, both as individuals and as groups or teams. We work closely with the local diocesan advisors to support us with staff development.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Collective worship is monitored and evaluated by a range of stake holders

- Senior Leadership
- Governors
- Pupils
- Church leaders

## **Disseminating the Policy**

We ensure that this policy is known to all staff and governors, parents and carers and, as appropriate, to all pupils. This policy is available on our school website.

Date of last review: Sept 2025

Headteacher signed: Date:

Chair of Governors signed: Date: