



## Martley C.E. Primary School

# Collective Worship Policy

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Developer/Developer's Role	Head of School
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### Our Christian Values

Our Core Christian values are the 5 C's - **Commitment, Creativity, Compassion, Co-operation and Courage**. They permeate our curriculum and are taught through our collective worship, within our curriculum and as part of our personal development programme.

Our vision is that everyone will know that they are loved by God. We nurture all children and adults so that they flourish as individuals and make the best of their God-given talents, through embracing our diverse world.

'Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the creator of the sun, moon and stars. God does not change like their shifting shadows'.

James 1:17

International Children's Bible

We also support and follow the vision of the Diocese of Worcester Multi-Academy Trust (DoWMAT) of which we are a member school:

'To Love, To Learn, To Serve' sums up the DoWMAT's vision for those who come together to create the MAT, enabling all to flourish both as individuals and in community with each other; living life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

### **Equality and Diversity Statement**

At Martley CE Primary School and Pre-School we promote equality of opportunity. We promote positive attitudes and encourage active participation of all stakeholders regardless of race, gender, disability, age, religion, belief and sexuality.

In so doing we strive to eliminate any unlawful discrimination or harassment of any group and where any such harassment is found appropriate action will be taken immediately.

## Intent

At Martley Primary School, we treat each other with mutual respect, pride ourselves on our positive relationships and work in a climate where we can lay the foundations for our values to be built upon. As a Church of England Primary School, we see our Collective Worship as a central part of school life and it is our intention to respect the beliefs of children, their families and staff, while ensuring that they are provided with an understanding of collective worship in a safe and secure environment in which to grow and learn. This includes as appropriate the chance to learn about other faiths and beliefs.

Our Collective Worship policy fulfils the statutory requirements common to all schools according to the 1988 Education Reform Act (and consolidated in the 1996 Education Act). It also fulfils the Diocesan requirements for a voluntary controlled church school which states that worship will be Christian in content with an Anglican emphasis and adopts the Church of England Collective Worship Guidance 'Inclusive, Invitational & Inspirational'. Collective Worship is the unique heartbeat of our school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together

## The School Vision

**Our vision is that everyone will know that they are loved by God. We nurture all children and adults so that they flourish as individuals and make the best of their God-given talents, through embracing our diverse world.**

*Every good action and every perfect gift is from God. These good gifts come down from the creator of the sun, moon, and stars. James 1:17 International Children's Bible*

Our vision is based on the idea that God loves us all unconditionally and because he loves us so much, he bestows each and every one of us with different talents. No matter who you are or where you are from, we all have God-given talents. At Martley, as people who are loved by God with our own talents, we are here to nurture the talents of others within our school. God created a diverse world, therefore we celebrate the diversity in all its forms. We promote tolerance and respect through worship when we focus on our British values.

## Values

Christian Values Education underpins all aspects of our school life and gives staff and pupils the opportunity to discuss and reflect on the values in life that they believe in. Every half term we focus on one of the school's core values and this forms the basis of our Collective Worship.

Christian Values Education will enable our children to: Be happy and special in their own way, trust each other, listen to each other and learn from each other, learn from any mistakes they may make, feel safe, feel loved and cared for, be confident and have high self-esteem, use their skills to the best of their ability, be highly successful learners in their own right, be truly creative, make a difference to the world through who and how they are, develop good relationships with a wide range of people, treat everyone with respect, take responsibility for themselves and their actions, develop a maturity of thinking, develop a wisdom about themselves and their world, experience the thrill of, and

develop a thirst for learning, have self-respect and behave responsibly and to be resilient and learn through being able to overcome challenges.

## Core Values

At Martley CE Primary School our core values are:

### **COMPASSION**

Be generous with your kindness, your time and your heart. Think about others and how you can help them.

*Colossians 3.12: Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.*

### **COMMITMENT**

Be committed to trying your very best and persevere with challenges.

*James 1:12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.*

### **COOPERATION**

Be helpful to others when working as part of a team.

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better off than one, because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up.*

### **COURAGE**

Be brave when things get tough because you are not alone.

*'Be strong and courageous for the Lord your God is with you.'* Joshua 1:9

### **CREATIVITY**

Be creative with your God-given talents.

4:14-15 "Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress."

## Definition of 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.*

## Collective Worship and the School Curriculum

Collective Worship contributes to the school curriculum by:

- Supporting the values of the curriculum including promoting British Values
- Provide opportunities for all pupils to learn and achieve
- Promoting pupils Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural development

- Preparing pupils for the responsibilities, opportunities and experiences of life
- Promoting key skills like: communication, ICT, problem solving, creativity and culture

### Implementation

All Collective Worship follows the same structure: welcome, learning, reflecting, responding, sending. A liturgy is included at the start of collective worship e.g. lighting of a candle. This structure helps to support the development of spiritual capacities. Children are also encouraged to use 'Reflection prompts' when in class-based worship. These mirror what they would see in a whole school worship e.g. learning, reflect, respond. Reflection corners in classrooms should be an interactive space for the children. These should include a Bible, candle and an image representing the trinity.

Themes linked to Christian values are planned on a half termly basis for collective worship and planning is displayed in the staff room. Children are involved in the planning of worship.

### Organisation of Collective Worship

Daily acts of collective worship take place including; whole school, class based, clergy led, pupil led. All teaching staff are involved in planning and delivering collective worship as well as 'Sing and Praise'.

The school attend services at the local church for celebrations like Harvest, Christmas and Easter. On occasions outside speakers are invited to take part in collective worship, for example charity workers.

**Entrance:** Children come into the hall to music playing.

**Welcome:** Greeting and lighting of the candles with reference to The Trinity. Children understand what each candle in The Trinity represents.

**Learning:** The Bible is a central part of Christian teaching, worship, and liturgy. It can be used to aid worship, to learn from and as a reference point for the theme of worship. Bible references should be used as an integral part of the structure (liturgy) of collective worship. Liturgy is the form which holds worship together and is usually based on the Bible and church tradition. Links could be made to current/world affairs. Real life stories and experiences may be used along with other stimuli that provide children with opportunities for deeper thinking about the priority we place on who God is in our lives and where God is on our list of priorities. The worship planner linked above can help those who are delivering the learning of the session.

**Reflect:** Children are given the opportunity to reflect on the learning and the content of the Collective Worship. This can be done through key questioning in a whole school worship. This reflecting can also take place in the classrooms with the use of reflective prompts.

**Response:** Response is a general term for the way in which we express our concern, appreciation or understanding. We can respond to the learning of the session through prayer.

**Sending:** We conclude the act of Collective Worship with a question for children to ponder over and with The Lord's Prayer or Our School Prayer.

### Monitoring of Collective Worship

The monitoring of collective worship will be done on a regular basis. This will be done by the CW lead, children or external visitors. A variety of proformas are kept in the worship folder in the hall. Children's views will also be sought during subject monitoring afternoons three times a year.

## **Impact**

In our school we want our children to have the best experience of collective worship to enable them to become children that:

- Love and look after each other
- Be resilient in the face of challenge
- Show courage in their learning and in their attitude to new experiences
- Make use of their God-given talents

Above all collective worship should give our children the opportunity to get involved because they are at the heart of our school.

## **Prayer**

Children are taught the Lord's prayer and show an understanding of what it means to Christians. Children are invited to join in with prayer or use it as a time of personal reflection. Children are invited to pray at the end of a collective worship.

### *Martley CE Primary School Prayer*

*Dear God,*

*Friend of us all,*

*Bless our school at Martley,*

*All the children and staff that work here,*

*Help us to do our best and be kind to one another.*

*Amen*

## **Right of Withdrawal**

We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

## **Policy Review**

This Policy was reviewed and revised October 2024.