



MORTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND (CONTROLLED) PRIMARY SCHOOL COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Our vision is:

Hand in hand, together we can... Respect, Achieve, Enjoy, Believe

**"And so encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing." 1
Thessalonians 5.11**

The Nature of Collective Worship

Collective worship is the school community coming together to share in an act of Christian worship.

Christian worship is:-

- a. paying reverence to God and nurturing a sense of awe, wonder and mystery at the creative power of God and His creation.
- b. evoking an appropriate spiritual response.

The basic elements of worship may include

- a sense of mystery, awe and wonder
- celebration
- a quiet time of reflection
- discovery of personal reactions joy, thankfulness, sorrow, fear, anger
- a search for the purpose and meaning of life.
- humility - recognising the strengths and weaknesses in ourselves and others.

Aims and Objectives

- To give children the experience and opportunity to participate in Christian worship.
- To bring children to the 'threshold of individual worship'.
- To affirm a sense of community with God.
- To promote our common Christian ethos and shared values.
- To reinforce positive attitudes.
- To achieve a sense of occasion.
- To contribute to the Religious Education of all children.

Entitlement

All children will take part in a daily act of collective worship. All children will take part in collective worship in St John the Baptist Church, Morton.

Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship if they wish. However participation will be encouraged as it is an important part of the whole school learning and sharing together. We will provide supervision for any child withdrawn. Staff have the right of withdrawal.

Implementation

Frequency of Collective Worship

Acts of collective worship normally take place in the main school hall.

- Monday - 1:15 - The Headteacher leads collective worship
- Tuesday - 1:15 - A Member of our local clergy or other community churches to lead collective worship.
- Wednesday - 9:00 - A teacher will lead collective worship
- Thursday - 1:15 - Teachers will lead collective singing and include moments for reflection and prayer
- Friday - 1:15 - Celebration - The Headteacher will lead an assembly to celebrate the achievements of the children. This will include moments for reflection and prayer

Character

Each Collective Worship will be positive and will encourage a thoughtful response. They will explore and express the Christian ethos by engaging with moral, spiritual, social and cultural issues.

Content

Themes for Collective Worship will be developed through a wide range of approaches to interest and challenge all of the children.

These may include story, poetry, art, artefacts, drama, science, music and song.

Themes are allocated across a year programme. The themes reflect:-

- Our 18 Core Christian Values
- main Christian festivals and those of other religions
- the environment
- human experience
- global issues
- Bible stories

Structure of Worship

“Gathering, Engaging, Responding, Sending” (GERS) which is the outline format for any Church of England Service of the Word. This supports the pattern of Anglican worship but is ecumenical in its approach.

Worship should also be BLESSED:

B Biblical

L Liturgical

E Ecumenical

S Seasonal

S Symbolic

E Eucharistic

D Diverse

Worship Leaders

Headteacher
Clergy
Staff members
Children
Visitors

Record keeping

A record is kept of all acts of collective worship covering themes, content, leader and music on the shared network drive for future use. Evaluations by staff and children are kept regularly and reviewed by the collective worship coordinator.

This policy was agreed by the *Governing Body* in March 2019.