



‘Within a caring Christian community we enable every child to flourish and inspire a love of learning in all members of our community’

Collective Worship Policy

Rationale

We endeavour to create a Christian environment of care and commitment, to promote a love of learning, to celebrate all achievements and build self-confidence to enable each individual to fulfil their potential through skills, knowledge and care.

The aims and ethos behind this statement of care and commitment is central to the planning, delivery and evaluation of our acts of collective worship.

Because we aim for acts of worship to be inclusive of all pupils there is an expectation that all pupils will be present. Careful planning and preparation ensure that there are clear learning intentions for pupils. Collective worship is first and foremost for the spiritual life and growth of the school community rooted in the grace of God revealed in Jesus Christ. It is a shared activity that allows for a variety of responses, and provides an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity. The school is committed to respect the integrity of the religious communities from which pupils come.

The school will also offer the opportunity to explore, reflect upon and respond to the mystery and meaning of the Christian faith.

Aims of Collective Worship

At Coombe Bissett School Collective Worship aims to:

- Strengthen and support the school community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God
- Give expression to, reaffirm and practise the values of the school community
- Allow reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals
- Contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others – a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others
- Provide members of the school community with the opportunity to:
 - Praise and reach out to God
 - Experience stillness and quiet
 - Begin to understand the Grace of God
 - Experience Christian love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ

- Respond to Christian language and symbolism
- Experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include: praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others, and quiet reflection
- Helping pupils being to understand the nature and purpose of worship and to
- Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future

Structure

In Coombe Bissett School, worship is organised as detailed in the Collective Worship/Assembly List, Appendix 1. Children participate through discussion, reading/contributing ideas towards/composing prayers, singing/praising.

Planning

In planning worship regard is given to:

- Observing the cycle of the church's year and selecting themes appropriate to this and the pupils' aptitude and ability
- How worship reflects the Anglican heritage, ie
 - Using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning;
 - Reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship (for example, bread, wine, chalice, cross and crucifix are symbols which lead to an understanding of the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection);
 - Observing the cycle of the Church's year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost;
 - Participating in the regularity and set order of Anglican worship. This recognises the central significance of the Eucharist while acknowledging the variety of other forms of worship, which may be decided locally in order to match, as far as possible, pupils' experience in school and church.
 - Identifying a collection of prayers, hymns and psalms which creates a framework for worship within the school;
 - Learning traditional responses and prayers which express the essential beliefs of Christians throughout the ages;
 - Providing opportunity to discover the value of meditation and silence within the context of Christian worship;
 - Recognising that the Anglican Church has a strong commitment to ecumenism which may be expressed through the range of visitors who are invited to lead or attend collective worship;
 - Experience the bond of community which encompasses gender, age, race and religious opinions.
- Linking with the broad dimensions of the curriculum;
- Creating an atmosphere for worship by the use of appropriate music, visual foci and symbols;
- Using the whole range of creative arts to appeal to the pupils' imagination;

There are special services from time to time, eg acknowledging the departure of older pupils.

Legal requirements

Coombe Bissett School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School.

As such it has a Trust Deed which states that worship should be 'in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England'.

In accordance with legal requirements (School Standards & Framework Act 1998) an act of collective worship, taking account of the age, aptitude and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents. The school expects that withdrawal will only be made following discussions with the headteacher, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal. The school has a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from acts of worship. Staff are asked to attend the act of collective worship.

Recording and Evaluation

All acts of worship are recorded and evaluated, these are kept in the Collective Worship folder. Daily evaluation is done by the person leading Collective Worship. Termly evaluation takes place in a staff meeting where the themes, coverage of different aspects and the impact of Collective Worship are discussed. A children's Collective Worship group has recently been established to include children more in the evaluating of Collective Worship.

Monitoring

The Collective Worship is monitored by:

1. Discussion at staff and governor meetings (minutes to be kept with the records). This discussion will include:
 - Review of content and methodology;
 - Suitability for age, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, groupings, leadership;
 - Links to curriculum and classroom experience;
 - Resources and budget;
 - INSET.
2. Review of job description and role of collective worship co-ordinator;
3. Attendance at worship by foundation governors for monitoring purposes;
4. Asking "are the requirements of law being met?"

Reviewed: Autumn 2014.2015
Ratified by FGB: Autumn 2014.2015
Date of next review: Autumn 2016.2017

Coombe Bissett Primary School

School Collective Worship List

Broad Content of Worship

As detailed in the school's RE document: "Monitoring the content of collective worship"

Broad Format

Lighting the candle with prayer

Focus – may be visual, words or creative expression

Prayers – appropriate to focus and the Lord's Prayer

Songs – linked to focus

Music – to enter and leave by; linked to the them or to extend the children's experience of a range of styles of music

Extinguishing the candle with prayer

DAY	KEY STAGE	LED BY:	BROAD CONTENT OF WORSHIP All = Broadly Christian Character
MON	ALL: 9:00 – 9:20am Hall	Head teacher	Spiritual, Cultural, Intellectual
TUES	ALL: 9.00 – 9.20 am Hall	Head teacher	Singing Worship
WEDS	KS1: 9:00 – 9:20 am Hall KS2: 9:00 – 9:20 am Fir Classroom	KS2 teacher KS1 teacher	Moral, Social, Cultural Moral, Social, Cultural
THUR	ALL: 9.00 – 9.20 am Hall	Vicar/Comm- unity Reps	Spiritual, Intellectual
FRI	ALL: 3.00 – 3.30 pm Hall With friends and family	Head teacher	Celebration Worship Spiritual, Social, Cultural, Intellectual



Coombe Bissett CE VA Primary School

Vision

*Within a caring Christian Community
we enable every child to flourish and
inspire a love of learning in all members of our school.*

Monitoring Content of Collective Worship

In line with the school's Collective Worship Policy, Collective Worship sessions are delivered with the following content objectives in mind.

Relevant codes are used in the school's evaluation record sheets, thus ensuring breadth of content and facilitating the monitoring of Collective Worship across the school.

Content Objectives

Content Code

Broadly Christian Character Content

To make reference to God and Jesus, when appropriate	BC1
To encourage a positive and responsible attitude to the environment	BC2
To encourage a quest for honesty, integrity, truth and justice	BC3
To encourage children to look beyond the obvious, the immediate and the material	BC4
To encourage love and respect for self and for the other person	BC5

Spiritual Development Content

To reflect upon the value, purpose and meaning of things	Sp1
To experience times of quiet inactivity, counterbalancing the general pace of the rest of the day	Sp2
To hear from religious/other literature which suggest there is more to life than meets the eye	Sp3

Moral Development Content

To reflect on matters concerning right and wrong	Mo1
To hear about incidents in which, and people in whom goodness or right are exemplified	Mo2
To learn about religions and other teachings concerning right and wrong	Mo3

Social Development Content

To gather with others for a common purpose	So1
To share times of joy and times of sadness with others	So2
To learn how to behave appropriately within a specific social setting	So3

Cultural Development Content

To hear music from a range of times, places and cultures	Cu1
To reflect upon ideas concerning beauty and that which is pleasing to the eye and ear	Cu2
To appreciate the range of talents and gifts found within the school community and beyond	Cu3

Intellectual Development Content

To learn to engage with their minds	In1
To have ideas and beliefs confirmed or challenged	In2
To reflect upon the nature of learning and education	In3

Appendix 2

Christian practices may include the use of:

