

Ingleton C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



July 2021

Contents:

Statement of intent

1. [Legal framework](#)
2. [Definition of collective worship](#)
3. [Aims of collective worship](#)
4. [Organisation and planning](#)
5. [Weekly collective worship programme](#)
6. [Implementation](#)
7. [Right to withdraw](#)
8. [Monitoring and review](#)

Statement of intent

At Ingleton C of E Primary School, we see the value in collective worship and adhere to our statutory duty by providing at least 20 minutes of collective worship a day. This time will enable pupils to explore their own beliefs and consider spiritual and moral issues.

The act of daily collective worship will be of a broadly Christian character; however, other faiths and cultures will be represented.

Collective worship provides the opportunity for the school to meet together in a variety of contexts and enables participating pupils and staff to consider events of the world and appreciate the rich tapestry of human experience and existence.

This policy outlines how our school implements collective worship within our daily routines, including the aims of collective worship and how pupils can be withdrawn.

1. Legal framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
 - The School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- 1.2. This policy also has due regard to guidance, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - DfE (1994) 'Religious Education and Collective Worship'
 - DfE (2012) 'Religious education (RE) and collective worship in academies and free schools'
- 1.3. This policy will be implemented alongside the following school policy:
 - RE Policy

2. Definition of collective worship

- 2.1. 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 come together, and reverence or veneration is paid to a divine being or power.
- 2.2. To **"take part"** in collective worship implies more than a passive attendance, such that it should have the ability to elicit responses from pupils even though they may not feel able to actively identify in the act of worship on a particular occasion.

3. Aims of collective worship

- 3.1. Collective worship aims to:
 - Enable pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues, as well as explore their own beliefs.
 - Encourage participation and response via active involvement or through listening and participating in the worship offered.
 - Provide pupils with the opportunity to plan, lead or contribute to discussions on key themes and topics, e.g. morality.
 - Provide a peaceful environment to enable stillness, prayer and reflection.
 - Help pupils to develop an awareness of their community and the spirit of helping others.

- Develop a spirit of community and an understanding of individuals with other beliefs.
- Acknowledge diversity and affirm each individual's life stance, whether religious or not.
- Promote a common ethos and shared values.
- Reinforce positive attitudes.

4. Organisation and planning

- 4.1. The school will implement collective worship in line with advice given by the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE).
- 4.2. Every pupil will participate in the act of collective worship unless they have been withdrawn in line with [section 7](#) of this policy.
- 4.3. Worship will broadly be of a Christian character.
- 4.4. The Headteacher is responsible for creating the agenda for collective worship in discussion with the Academy Council.
- 4.5. The act of worship will be held for a minimum of 20 minutes daily in the school hall.
- 4.6. Each assembly held will have a theme relevant to current affairs and topics agreed by the Headteacher and Academy Council.
- 4.7. The content of all acts of collective worship will be considered to ensure suitability and relevance to pupils of all ages and backgrounds.
- 4.8. The Headteacher will establish a timetable for collective worship to make sure progression from each session is carried on to the next, as well as to ensure that learning is practically applied by pupils to their lives inside and outside of school.
- 4.9. The school may invite visitors or guest speakers to speak during collective worship, in accordance with the timetabled theme.

5. Weekly collective worship programme

The school aims to deliver a varied collective worship programme to pupils. All staff including the Headteacher deliver and are a part of daily collective worship.

- 5.1. Once every term, pupils will meet in their classes to discuss issues and the themes of worship covered that term.

- 5.2. Prayer, hymns and time for reflection will be a regular part of collective worship and participating individuals will recite the Lord's prayer.
- 5.3. Collective worship will address key themes such as:
- Creation.
 - Fall.
 - Salvation.
 - Justification.
 - Redemption.
 - Sanctification.
 - Faith, hope and love.
- 5.4. All topics covered will be suitable to the age of pupils participating in collective worship and will be inclusive for all needs.

6. Implementation

- 6.1. The school aims to promote rich and meaningful experiences of collective worship that are appropriate to pupils' needs, ages and interests by:
- Presenting displays that promote and enhance spiritual ideas and thoughts.
 - Encouraging pupils to reflect and contemplate on their thoughts, feelings and beliefs.
 - Using artefacts, secular stories, resources, music, art, drama and guest speakers to engage pupils' interest.
 - Involving pupils in different experiences of worship, e.g. silence, prayer, rituals and shared or written prayers.
- 6.2. The school will take into account pupils of different ages and abilities when delivering the collective worship programme.
- 6.3. The school will arrange for learning mentors to assist pupils with SEND if the need arises.
- 6.4. Inspection of collective worship will be undertaken by the appropriate Diocesan authority. All Church of England dioceses and the Methodist Church use the Church of England Education Office's framework for the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005. The SIAMS Evaluation Schedule sets out the expectations for the conduct of the Statutory Inspection of Anglican, Methodist and ecumenical Schools under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005.

- 6.5. SIAMS inspection focuses on the impact of the Church school's Christian vision on pupils and adults. This involves looking at the school's Christian vision, the provision the school makes because of this vision and how effective this provision is in enabling all pupils to flourish. Church schools will employ a variety of strategies and styles appropriate to, and reflective of, their particular context in order to be distinctively and effectively Christian in their character and ethos. SIAMS inspectors therefore do not look for a set template of what a Church school should be like, but rather take the particular context of the school into account and base their evaluation on the outcomes rather than the process.

The Evaluation Schedule has one inspection question: how effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

This is explored through seven strands:

- Vision and Leadership
- Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills
- Character Development: Hope, Aspiration and Courageous Advocacy
- Community and Living Well Together
- Dignity and Respect
- The impact of collective worship
- The effectiveness of religious education

One overall grade is awarded reflecting the contribution of these strands to the flourishing of pupils and adults in a Church school. In addition, a standalone grade is awarded in all schools for collective worship.

7. Right to withdraw

- 7.1. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so.
- 7.2. Parents will be encouraged to discuss their decision with the Headteacher following a request of withdrawal in terms of:
- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the pupil taking part in.
 - The practical implications of their withdrawal.

- Whether the parent will require notice in advance of such worship, and if so, what period of notice is preferred.
- 7.3. Alternative provision will be arranged for pupils who are withdrawn from collective worship.
- 7.4. Alternative provision may involve religious worship relevant to their particular faith or denomination provided that:
- The effect of the alternative provision would not replace the denominational collective worship with that of the statutory, non-denominational worship.
 - Such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school.
- 7.5. The alternative provision will be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum.

8. Monitoring and review

- 8.1. This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Headteacher in agreement with the Academy Council.
- 8.2. This policy will be evaluated in accordance with feedback from questionnaires and class discussions.
- 8.3. Any changes made to this policy and the collective worship programme will be communicated to all members of staff.
- 8.4. The scheduled review date for this policy is July 2022.