

# All Saints' CE Federation of Academies



'Building the bridge to success together'

*John 10:10* I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness.

**THANKFULNESS**

**FORGIVENESS**

**COURAGE**

**COMMUNITY**

## Collective Worship Policy

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the Headteacher, Collective Worship leader and teaching staff. It was approved by governors during the summer term of 2023 and will be reviewed in July 2025 or sooner if necessary.

### Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our vision and associated values. As part of the Christian Ethos of this school, our Christian vision is clear and underpins everything we do in school: we are **'Building the bridge to success together'**. **Inspired by John 10v.10, living life in all its fullness**, we endeavour for everyone to be resilient, independent, confident, happy, enthusiastic and respectful – RICHER - learners. The values of **Thankfulness, Forgiveness, Courage and Community** permeate our *schools*.

*John 10:10* I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness.

The school celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Therefore, Collective Worship at All Saints' CE Federation of Academies is planned to:

- be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school
- regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the schools' core Christian values
- Explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues. In doing so, it will reflect on moral values such as thankfulness, forgiveness and service; and develop virtues such as resilience, independence and courage that develop character and contribute to academic progress
- have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity

- help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide
- enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals
- challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of prayer, reflection and stillness
- contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to"
- be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Collective worship should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

### **Legal Requirements**

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation.

### **Withdrawal from Collective Worship**

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. Parental contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given at New Parents' Evening and shared on the website.

### **Inclusion and Equal Opportunities**

Collective Worship is inclusive. Please refer to Ebor Academy Trust's SEND Policy and All Saints' CE Federation of Academies Accessibility Plan.

### **Planning Collective Worship**

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by using traditional gatherings and sendings, bringing in key symbolic artefacts and lighting a candle. Participants will be invited to take part in prayer and reflect quietly.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be time for evaluation. The School Parliament meet half termly, one committee within the Parliament leads on Christian Distinctiveness. This committee, among other things, provides opportunities to review and evaluate the current term's acts of Collective Worship; plan themes for the next term; and seek the views of pupils about collective worship. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective Worship.

School leaders and Revd. Carol Tetley, one of the schools' governors and a member of the clergy team at All Saints' Church in Hessle, have a role monitoring Collective Worship.

There are a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning, including; Out of the Box Worship, Values for Life, Roots and Fruits and Picture News. All resources are stored centrally in the Infant School building, or are shared electronically and easily accessible.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Mrs Newsham, Deputy Headteacher.

### **Our pattern of Collective Worship**

Whole School Worship is held at least twice a week. These are led by a variety of staff members including the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, phase leads and class teachers.

Year group/phase worship is held at least once a week. These are led by phase leads, class teachers and with the support of the children. On a weekly basis, in the summer term, children from Y2 meet with Y3 and Y4 to worship together.

Class Collective Worship is held at least twice a week. In EYFS and KS1, due to their young age, the teacher usually plans Collective Worship using ideas from the children and the children support the teacher in its delivery. In KS2, as children become more experienced and confident, Class Collective Worship is increasingly planned and led by the children with support from the class teacher as necessary.

Visitors who have been invited to join us in acts of Collective Worship include parents, governors and diocesan advisers.

A number of Christian values help structure the acts of Collective Worship over the year. These are strongly linked to the schools' vision and values but also take into consideration the pattern of the church's year.

### **Visitors**

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

### **Staff and Community Involvement in Collective Worship**

Certain named individuals [leader responsible for Collective Worship and local clergy] are involved on a regular basis with the worship programme. Other staff and pupils are given the opportunity of being involved in this programme every term.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Monitoring and evaluation of acts of collective worship is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors on a termly basis.

All who deliver worship will be observed over the course of the year. This process supports the school's self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body.

Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in class worship, questionnaires and pupil voice interviews.

All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously and reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of Collective Worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop. We also welcome the contributions of parents and pupils through

questionnaires, which are reviewed and considered on a regular basis. These are discussed with our Foundation Governors and shared during full governing body meetings. They play an integral part in developing the spiritual growth of the school. Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York (SIAMS).

Date approved Summer Term 2023                      Signed R. Tyler..... Chair of Governors

Date of review Summer Term 2025                      Signed R. Tyler..... Chair of Governors