



St. Luke's CEVA Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Approved by: Governing Board

Approved on: Autumn 2023

Review Date: Autumn 2024

At St. Luke's CEVA Primary School we aim to create a positive, safe and secure learning environment based upon mutual respect and high expectations, so that all members of the school community can excel and

**Aspiring to be just and kind
Walking humbly with God
Growing with every opportunity**

At St. Luke's we aim to:

Develop an active culture of justice and kindness, where everyone (regardless of background) is treated with dignity, respect and warmth.

Embed a positive approach to behaviour management, which has restorative justice at its core and focuses on respect, forgiveness, trust and restoration.

Inspire the pupils to make ethical choices and become agents for change both within their own context and further afield.

Provide an environment where everyone can flourish and have a life enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and Jesus Christ.

Instil hearts of compassion which lead to the service of others both within our own context and further afield.

Provide an excellent, broad-based curriculum that inspires enthusiasm, energy and dedication as pupils fully engage with learning

Provide pupils with a variety of opportunities, including sporting, musical, artistic, technological and cultural activities that facilitate spiritual, moral, social and cultural and growth

Encourage pupils to grow in the in the 'fruits of the spirit' (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control)

Develop a growth mindset, resilience and good mental health and well-being.

Collective Worship Policy for St. Luke's CEVA Primary School

Collective Worship - legal requirements

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Section 70 and Schedule 20) requires that:

- All registered pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdrawal) must on "each school day, take part in an act of collective worship".
- The daily act of collective worship should be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deeds of the school and the ethos statement in the Instrument of Government, and should be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England.
- The governing body should ensure that all pupils each day engage meaningfully in a real act of Christian worship which is in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church.
- All acts of collective worship in Church schools must be Christian in character.

Collective Worship - aims

St. Luke's is a Church of England Voluntary Aided School and as such aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. During collective worship the school aims to:

- Offer an opportunity without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate Christian worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection and varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language
- Enable pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice

Collective Worship - organisation (awakening/engaging/responding)

Monday	9.40am	Whole School - introducing the topic for the week
Tuesday	9.40am	Whole School - building on the topic (assembly team)
Wednesday	9.40am	Split KS 1/2 - ensuring age appropriate understanding
Thursday	9.40am	Whole School - led by Church clergy , building on topic
Friday	9.00am	Whole School - reflection and celebration assembly

As shown above the school holds a daily act of collective worship which is led by a member of staff, clergy or visitors and supported by pupils. This act of worship follows a set pattern of practice and the school endeavours to ensure that it reinforces the schools vision and core Christian values; that it encourages reflective and analytical thinking; that it is appropriate to all; that it contributes to the corporate life of the school; that it encourages engagement and application and that it enables beliefs to be confirmed or challenged. The school uses a selection of materials to enable us to focus on the person and teaching of Jesus as found in the Bible and our core Christian values; including: Imaginor (KS2 Roots and Fruits/KS1 Oscar out of the Box). The beginning of each act of collective worship is marked by the positioning of the Bible, the cross and the lighting of the candle to indicate the Trinitarian nature of God. Each act of collective worship is opened and closed with Christian prayer or a time of reflection and may involve the singing of Christian worship songs and hymns.

The normal pattern of collective worship may be adjusted to facilitate visiting speakers, the celebration of special days, Christian festivals and class assemblies. These adjustments will be recorded in the medium term planning.

Collective Worship - visitors

Visiting speakers are usually drawn from known sources, for example the Diocese of Chelmsford; local Church of England clergy and leaders from other local churches; visitors recommended by Newham Sacre, for example 'Faith in Schools'; or representatives from established Christian charities such as Stand by Me. All of these visitors are carefully chosen and briefed before the act of worship takes place: they are made aware of the educational context of collective worship; the age and aptitude of the children; the duration of the collective worship and the ethos and values of the school.

Collective Worship - inclusivity

St Luke's is aware that acts of collective worship should be age appropriate and seeks to provide access points for children of all key stages when the whole school meets together. Children also meet for key stage acts of collective worship at least once a week and may have class assemblies if themes are age group specific.

St. Luke's recognises that its pupils come from a variety of different family backgrounds, including those from Christian families, families with different faiths and families with no faith. As a school we feel it is important that acts of collective worship should include content that all pupils can access and feel inspired or challenged by, content that promotes both faith and the pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. St Luke's aims to ensure that prayer is invitational rather than compulsory and that an alternative reflection time is sensitively offered so that all can be involved.

St. Luke's aims to facilitate the involvement of our pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and ensuring appropriate staffing for collective worship times, including where necessary the use of aids such as fiddle toys, sensory cushions and headphones. St Lukes' recognises that their needs to be level of flexibility built in to cater for individual needs and aptitudes.

Collective Worship - right to withdraw - Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements must be made to accommodate these children (DFE circular 1/94). Since St. Luke's is a church school however, it is important to note that worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education. Requests for withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher, who will then meet with the parents and a representative from the Governing Body to discuss the way forward. To date no children have been withdrawn from collective worship

Collective Worship - evaluation and monitoring

To ensure that the legal requirements are met, and that collective worship promotes children's spiritual, moral, social, cultural (SMSC) and intellectual development, it is essential that monitoring takes place on a regular basis. In St. Luke's reviews include:

- Monitoring of plans, e.g. taking in daily planning sheets and checking if they reflect the schools Christian ethos, promote SMSC and intellectual development and if there is a variety of acts of worship
- Monitoring delivery on a half termly basis to consider the general focus and educational aims, SMSC development and broadly Christian character
- The use of monitoring to inform training needs and professional development
- Monitoring the numbers of withdrawals from collective worship
- Governors' monitoring checklist for collective worship