



*St. Saviour's Church, Coalpit Heath.*

# The Manor C of E Primary School

## Policy: Collective Worship

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**Approved:**

Headteacher

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Chair of Governors

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# Collective Worship Policy

## 1 Rationale

Collective Worship supports the Aims and Values of the school. We believe that Collective Worship makes an important contribution to fulfilling the school's motto: 'Together we rise to the challenge'.

We aim for acts of worship to be inclusive of all pupils so 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 educational benefit of all pupils. 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.

## 2 Legal requirements

The Manor CE Primary School is a VC 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worship, taking account of the age, aptitude and background of pupils, is provided daily for all pupils except those withdrawn by parents.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 The school provides a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from acts of worship. Staff also have the right to withdraw from the act of collective worship.

## 3 Aims of Collective Worship

3.1 At the Manor CE Primary 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

3.2 Collective Worship provides members of the school community with the opportunity to:

- Praise and reach out to God
- Experience stillness and quiet
- 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
- Help pupils to understand the nature and purpose of worship
- Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future

#### **4 Structure**

Collective Worship is organised in the following way:

Monday – Whole school worship led by the Head Teacher

Tuesday – Worship through song

Wednesday – Class worship

Thursday – KS groups led by teachers and occasionally the vicar

Friday – Whole school celebration assembly led by a teacher

#### **5 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, i.e.: Using the Bible as a source book for inspiration and learning; Observing the cycle of the Church's year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost
- Arranging special services from time to time, e.g. to welcome new pupils to school or acknowledging the departure of older pupils;
- 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;
- Creating an atmosphere for worship by the use of appropriate music, visual foci and symbols

#### **6 Monitoring**

The collective worship will be monitored by:

Discussion at staff and governor meetings (minutes to be kept with the records). These discussions 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.

