

Eyam C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



'Let your light shine'

Agreed: July 2019

Review Date: Sept 2024

Our vision is to be a vibrant and thriving community of responsible and resilient learners who 'let their light shine' as we work together, using critical thinking skills to achieve more and celebrate each other's success through a culture of respect.

We learn as a TEAM because Together Everyone Achieves More.

Signed by _____ on behalf of the Governing Body Date _____

Definition of Collective Worship

At Eyam C.E. Primary school the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life, closely linked to children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including citizenship.

Collective worship is a shared experience we aim to be:

- inspiring, invitational and inclusive to all in the school community,
- a time for teaching and learning about God's word and learning to live in God's world, as Jesus Christ lived and taught,
- a time for prayer and praise, for communication between God and ourselves.
- a significant opportunity to explore the Christian virtues which permeate the ethos of the school,
- an opportunity for the development of spiritually.

Our strap line is '*Let your light shine*' which is taken from Matthew 5:16 and is deeply reflected in how we work together at Eyam. Our core values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience are embedded in our learning, play and presentation of work as well as the way we behave towards each other as a community of learners.

Rationale

Eyam Primary School has Christian virtues at its heart. This means that every child and adult associated with the school is important not only because they are members of the school community, but also because they are seen as unique individuals within God's creation. We recognise that, as well as academic and emotional intelligence, people also have spiritual intelligence. In our school, the spiritual aspects of life will be recognised and nurtured alongside the academic and emotional needs of all.

Our acts of Collective Worship aim to enable children to:

- develop an understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- understand the central position of Jesus Christ within the Christian faith;
- reflect on the impact our actions have on others;
- take time to consider and develop spiritually as an individual as well as a community;
- relate Biblical material and Christian teaching to the school's core values (Respect, Resilience and Responsibility) and their own lives;
- understand the Christian virtues that are explored, exemplified and embodied within the life of Jesus;
- explore their own beliefs and to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- reflect upon and celebrate events of significance individually, collectively and beyond the school;
- pray, both through sharing in the prayers of others and through the creation of their own prayers
- develop a sense of caring and sharing making links to our school Star Award System
- develop a sense of awe and wonder through celebration of the outdoors and considering our impact on the wider world
- foster positive moral attitudes for individual personal growth and compassion for others;
- belong to a community where Christian values are embedded in all aspects of school life;
- participate knowledgeably in leading acts of worship.

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Equal Opportunities

All children and their families are valued and welcomed equally at Eyam Primary School. Children are treated as individuals and have equal access to the curriculum. All children are encouraged to achieve their personal best and planning is adapted to meet the needs of all groups and abilities. In order to accommodate an individual's particular learning style we incorporate a multi-sensory approach so that the various activities will cater for all pupils in the spirit of inclusion. (see Equal Opportunities, SEN Policy)

Provision for worship

Worship takes place daily as below

		Led by	Theme
Monday	Whole school worship	Headteacher or Class teacher	School Theme or Picture News/Global focus
Tuesday	Whole school worship	Rector	School theme
Wednesday	Whole school worship	Worship coordinator / children	School theme or singing or Pupil voice at school
Thursday	Whole school worship	Generational pastor	School theme
Friday	Whole school worship	Head teacher	Celebration

We also lead worship in church regularly for Harvest Festival, Easter and the end of the school year and take part in the Parish Church carol service.

Children and staff also share in special worship workshops led by members of the church during the year eg. Advent, Lent and Easter. Outside visitors are also invited into school such as during Fair Trade fortnight.

Pupil Worship Team

This role continues to develop over time, currently the children welcome other pupils into worship as well as lead the lighting of a candle. They also set the mood for worship by selecting music and a weekly song.

In addition to this the team organise the recording of the worship theme and how it was developed including the scripture used and a comment.

During the year pupils are involved in leading the services in church including the prayers, reflections, reading and drama presentations.

Planning

Themes for Collective Worship are planned each term, in advance, to ensure cohesion and continuity. We use Roots and Fruits as a core resource for exploring Christian virtues through worship. There is a two year programme of themes: Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Justice, Service, Truthfulness, Generosity, Compassion, Friendship, Courage, Forgiveness, Respect. We also plan for and celebrate key events in the Christian calendar. Other religious calendars are taken into consideration as well as events in the wider world such as natural and man-made disasters, memorial events such as Remembrance day and Share a Pencil day.

In our acts of Collective Worship, we endeavour to:

- promote a Christian ethos and shared Christian values;
- build knowledge and understanding of Christian beliefs and the centrality of Jesus Christ to Christians through accessible and engaging resources and material;
- provide opportunities for pupils to understand and reflect upon our whole school values of 'Respect Resilience and Responsibility'
- encourage children to see this as a special and thoughtful time spent with others where distinct behaviours and practices are observed;
- encourage participation and leadership by children, especially within class-led and church-based acts of worship;
- provide opportunities, over time, for every child to share their own thoughts, beliefs, ideas and accomplishments through seeking responses and posing questions;
- introduce children to a range of multicultural and religious stories, artefacts, celebrations and beliefs;

- involve different leaders of Collective Worship, including staff, clergy and members of the Christian community;
- include meaningful opportunities for praise, prayer and/or quiet reflection;
- include a range of music for listening and singing to accompany acts of worship;
- use an appropriate range of Christian greetings, dismissals and prayers. These will change to reflect the liturgical year.

INSET and Professional Development

The worship coordinator attends workshops and training provided by the Diocese and whole staff training also takes place linked with local schools and with the Diocese

Subject Leaders

At Eyam the role of the subject leader is to:

- provide a strategic lead and direction for worship ;
- support and advise colleagues on issues related to worship;
- provide efficient resource management for worship.

It is the role of each subject leader to keep up to date with developments in their subject, at both national and local level. They review the way the subject is taught in the school, and plan for improvement. This development planning links to whole-school objectives.

Resources including teacher books

A variety of books and artefacts are available.

They are kept in the worship cupboard, RE resources or in the entrance area.

Outside Resources

School worship takes place in the church on a regular basis and also on the school field in the playground, classrooms and at forest school.

Assessment and reporting

A worship log is kept by a rota of children and a worship questionnaire is completed annually. The foundation governor is invited to attend worship and report to governors. The school receives an annual visit by an adviser from the Diocese as well as a Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools (SIAMS) and Ofsted inspection every three years.