

Whittle-le-Woods CE Primary School

Worship Policy 2020-21

Our Mission Statement

I have come so that they may have life, and have it to the full John 10:10

Whittle-le-Woods CE Primary School Mission Statement

Our Christian family leads and encourages everyone to:

- * Flourish; soar in faith and talents
- * Serve others courageously
- * Be excited and curious to learn

We do this within our safe, happy, diverse and nurturing Christ centred environment ensuring 'all have life and have it to the full' John 10:10

We are God's children doing God's work.

Love ☞ Learn ☞ Share ☞ Care
God's Children Doing God's Work

Covid Update

During the covid pandemic it has been necessary to halt collective worship in the hall and in church with more than one class. Classes will worship together in a single bubble in their own classrooms. Unfortunately there can be no communal singing, but classes will listen to music and Christian songs as part of worship. This will help to prepare for worship, spiritually connect and reinforce the messages delivered within the worship. Worship will follow the format within the rest of this policy.

To bring the school together in worship, staff clergy and pupils will record worships to share with each other. Zoom will also be used to bring people together in worship.

School will return to our usual worship once the pandemic has eased and schools are informed that it is safe to do so.

1. INTRODUCTION

The law requires that there be a daily act of worship which should be 'wholly or mainly of a broad Christian character' [Ed. Ref. Act 1988]

2. RATIONALE

In a busy, lively Primary school it is important to set aside time for the children to come together in a feeling of belonging and community to reflect on ideas surrounding their lives. It is central to developing our ethos as a Christian community and an opportunity to celebrate our school's Church Values.

3. THE AIMS OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- To provide an opportunity for the children to reflect upon God and give him praise
- To help develop better understanding of Bible teaching
- To help children discover their place in the world
- ☐To provide an opportunity to celebrate major, and some minor Christian celebrations
- To enable children to make effective use of silence in opportunities for reflection, contemplation and prayer
- To celebrate gifts, talents and achievement
- To establish, explore and reinforce the common Christian values of the school community such as love, peace, kindness and compassion
- To foster a feeling of community and belonging in the school through a sharing of experiences and feelings
- To develop personal relationships and encourage social development
- To provide opportunities to emphasise with the needs of others
- To provide an opportunity for children to become acquainted with people from the local and wider community, particularly the local Church.
- To understand that worship can happen anywhere.

4. ENTITLEMENT

At Whittle-le-Woods CE Primary School collective worship is carried out every day for all of our pupils. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from our daily Collective worship.

5. IMPLEMENTATION

- Worship is seen mainly as Christian based, drawing largely from the Bible.
- There are some stories used from other faiths along with bible teaching.
- Collective worship may take the form of short stories, drama or discussions

- Children are encouraged to participate and quiet times are often used for reflection and private thought
- We encourage a calm and thoughtful atmosphere and children are encouraged to enter the hall calmly to music and sit comfortably to create a peaceful ambience for worship
- Music is played at the beginning and end of the worship
- There will be at least one prayer said in the worship
- The head teacher, deputy head, class teacher, parish clergy, parish lay readers and clergy from other churches eg Methodist church Leyland can lead the worship
- Some collective worship can take the form of 'Prayer and Praise' with singing focus.
- Fridays are usually 'Celebration' achievement assemblies
- Weekly worships are planned taking into account curricular themes, special days and celebrations within the church

Monday	Whole School 9:10am
Tuesday	Key Stage Worship
Wednesday	Whole School Clergy/Parish 9:10
Thursday	Class worship
Friday	Celebration Worship

6. CHURCH EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

The main celebrations for the school year include a Harvest festival at which the children contribute gifts or food for those less fortunate than themselves. A Christmas carol service or play takes place in December in Church. An Easter service is performed during the Easter period by Year 3 and Year 4 and a Leaver's Service is held at the end of the school year. These are all in the local church. There are many other services and celebrations that take place e.g. welcome back to the new year, Education Sunday

7. Withdrawal

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.' If such a request for withdrawal is made, the Headteacher should explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Religious Education or Worship are objected to