

SALEHURST CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
The Bridge Federation
Collective Worship Policy



“Let all that you do be done in love” - 1 Corinthians 16:14

- **Date policy adopted by Salehurst CEP School: March 2026**
- **Review date: March 2028**

Salehurst Church of England Primary School is a welcoming and inclusive community rooted in Christian vision and values. Our ethos places love, dignity and wellbeing at the heart of all we do. Collective worship is central to the life of the school and provides a time for the whole community to gather, reflect and grow together. Our Christian values of Compassion, Respect, Friendship and Courage underpin our approach to worship and support pupils in developing spiritually, morally, socially and culturally.

Intent

Collective Worship is a valued and distinctive part of daily life at Salehurst CE Primary School. It reflects our foundation as a Church of England school and expresses our vision that all members of the community are loved, valued and encouraged to flourish.

Collective Worship provides opportunities for pupils and adults to come together to reflect on experiences of life through a Christian lens. It supports pupils in exploring questions of meaning and purpose and encourages them to consider how they can live well together in community.

Collective worship at Salehurst is:

- rooted in the Christian tradition of the Church of England
- invitational and inclusive
- respectful of the beliefs of all members of the school community
- reflective and spiritually enriching
- connected to the vision and values of the school

Through collective worship, we aim to:

- provide opportunities to encounter Christian faith and practice
- explore Christian teachings and values
- support spiritual development through reflection, stillness and prayer
- foster a sense of belonging within a caring community
- encourage respect for different beliefs and perspectives
- support pupils in reflecting on how we live well together
- promote curiosity about the wider world
- develop understanding of our Christian vision and values

We recognise that worship is a personal experience and pupils may engage in different ways. Participation may include listening, reflecting, singing, praying or simply being present respectfully.

Implementation

Legal requirements

In accordance with the Education Reform Act (1988), there is a daily act of collective worship for all pupils. As a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school:

- collective worship is Christian in character
- worship reflects the broad traditions of Christian belief
- parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship
- staff have the right to withdraw on grounds of conscience

We seek to ensure that any alternative arrangements are respectful and minimise any sense of exclusion.

Organisation of worship

Collective worship takes place daily and may involve the whole school, key stages or individual classes.

Themes for worship are planned across each term and reflect:

- the Christian calendar, including Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter
- the school's Christian values of Compassion, Respect, Friendship and Courage
- experiences relevant to pupils' lives - end and beginning of the academic years

- local, national and global events
- opportunities to explore meaning and purpose

Collective worship may be led by:

- the Headteacher
- teaching staff
- pupils
- members of our local Church
- visitors
- Foundation Governors

The school community gathers at St Mary's Church for key services including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the Leavers' Service, strengthening links between school and church.

Collective worship follows a clear structure across the week to ensure balance between reflection, celebration, music and exploration of Christian values. A typical weekly pattern may include:

Day	Focus	Led by
Monday	Christian value or theme	Head Teacher
Tuesday	Amazing People - learning about individuals who represent our School Values	Teaching Staff (rota)
Wednesday	Worship through Music	Music Lead
Thursday	Class Worship	Pupil led - supported by Teaching Staff
Friday	FAB Celebration Worship	Head Teacher

This structure supports continuity and progression across the year, ensuring that worship includes opportunities for reflection, celebration, music and engagement with Christian teaching. Flexibility is maintained to respond to significant events or needs within the school community.

Elements of worship

Collective worship includes a range of elements which support reflection and spiritual development.

These may include:

- Bible readings and stories
- prayer (spoken, written or silent)
- stillness and reflection
- music, hymns and songs
- visual images and artefacts
- opportunities for pupil participation
- moments of awe and wonder
- opportunities to respond personally

Prayer is recognised as an important part of Christian worship and may include shared prayers, silence or time for personal reflection. The Lord's Prayer is used regularly as part of Anglican tradition. Silence and stillness are valued opportunities for pupils to think deeply and reflect.

Themes explored through worship may include:

- belonging and community
- forgiveness and reconciliation
- hope and resilience
- justice and compassion
- courage and perseverance
- stewardship of the world
- celebration and gratitude
- identity and dignity
- loss and change

Collective worship is invitational in nature and seeks to be meaningful for those of Christian faith as well as those of other faiths or none.

Inclusion

We recognise that members of the school community come from a range of backgrounds, beliefs and experiences. Collective worship aims to be accessible and meaningful to all. Pupils are encouraged to engage in ways that feel appropriate to them. No pupil is required to actively participate in prayer or expressions of belief. All pupils are expected to show respect for the beliefs and practices of others. We seek to ensure that worship is welcoming and sensitive to the experiences of all members of the school community.

Impact

Collective worship supports pupils in developing spiritually and in understanding the values that underpin our school community.

Through participation in collective worship, pupils develop:

- understanding of Christian values
- confidence in reflection and stillness
- respect for different beliefs and perspectives
- a sense of belonging within the school community
- awareness of meaning and purpose
- empathy and compassion for others
- understanding of Christianity as a living faith

Pupils demonstrate the impact of worship through their ability to talk about values, reflect thoughtfully on experiences and show care and respect for others.

Monitoring and evaluation

Collective Worship is monitored by:

- the Headteacher
- foundation governors
- the RE subject leader

Monitoring activities may include:

- observation of worship
- review of planning
- pupil voice
- discussion with staff
- reflection on how worship supports the school vision

Evaluation considers:

- how well worship reflects the Christian character of the school
- pupil engagement in reflection
- understanding of Christian values
- the sense of community developed through worship
- the extent to which worship supports spiritual development

Monitoring helps ensure that collective worship continues to support the vision and ethos of the school.
