

Central:

Trust-wide policy, applicable at trust and school levels. Schools may not make any changes or adaptations

St Peter's
PRIMARY SCHOOL

'I have come that they may have life – life in all its fullness' John 10 v 10

Belonging, Believing, Building a Future

Collective Worship Statement

Church of England Schools

Approved by:	Ethos & Governance Committee
Date:	September 2024
Next review date:	September 2027

Adopted by school:	St Peter's, Alvescot
Date:	Dec 24

ODST Collective Worship Statement for Church of England Schools

Introduction

At St Peter's School, Collective worship strengthens and supports the Christian ethos and identity of our school and reaffirms our vision and Christian values. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found within the Church of England and follows the Christian liturgical year. The daily act of worship is at the heart of our school and is supported by all staff and LGB members. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our school and celebrates the central role that each person has to play within our school community.

Aims

Our collective worship is planned:

- to be inspiring, inclusive, invitational* and engaging, so that all participants are able to talk about the difference worship makes to their relationships and the life of the school
- around Biblical texts and Christian teaching
- to deepen understanding of our Christian values
- with an understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- to deepen our understanding of Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide
- to challenge everyone, regardless of background to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey
- to develop an appreciation and understanding of the value of prayer, reflection and stillness
- to develop a sense of the spiritual, creating opportunities to wonder and respond to something beyond the everyday
- to praise, celebrate and give thanks
- to acknowledge significant achievements and mark significant occasions within the school, local and international community

*Collective worship in a church school should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faiths. It does not pre-suppose shared beliefs.

Legal Requirements

We meet legal requirements by providing a daily act of collective worship which is in line with our Trust Deed and Anglican foundation. The Local Governing Body holds responsibility for ensuring that the legal requirements for worship are met and that all pupils are offered a meaningful act of Christian worship. Our daily worship can be whole school worship, key stage, class or group worship.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. We comply with any request from a parent to withdraw their child. However, in view of the Christian ethos and distinctive Christian character of our school, we hope that all children admitted will participate in collective worship, and that anyone wishing to withdraw their child will discuss this with the headteacher before making their decision. Any queries about withdrawal from collective worship should be directed to the Headteacher. Following a conversation with the headteacher, parents should confirm this request in writing.

We acknowledge that teachers also have the right to withdraw from collective worship. However, as a church school, all members of staff are asked to support the Christian ethos of the school and therefore we expect teaching staff to attend worship. Collective worship cannot be used as part of a teacher's planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time. Any member of staff wishing to withdraw from worship should discuss their wishes with the headteacher. Should a member of staff still seek to withdraw following this discussion, they should provide written notice to the headteacher.

Visitor Involvement in Worship

Our local incumbent, members of the parish team, and other visitors may be involved in our worship on a regular basis and enrich our worship.

We Invite visitors to participate in and lead our worship. We liaise with them beforehand so that they are clear about the aims of our collective worship, our school values and the danger of perceived proselytising. Attempts to persuade participants to adopt particular religious or non-religious beliefs are not appropriate. In general, the headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Worship

We evaluate our acts of collective worship and the impact they have on the school and our wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and LGB members and takes place both informally and formally. Everyone who leads worship is asked to evaluate continuously, reflecting on how they can improve and develop their practice. We welcome the views of all those who participate in our worship, including parents and visitors. These views and any suggestions play an integral part in developing the spiritual growth of our school community.

The impact of our collective worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005.

This statement should be reviewed regularly in line with the school's procedures, at least every three years.

Appendix 1 – St Peter’s Collective Worship Overview

Term	Themes (linked to PSHE and Church calendar and world events)	School Value /British Value	Weekly Themes
1	Being Me in My World Harvest Rosh Hashanah Yom Kippur Sukkot Simchat Torah Saints/remembrance	Belonging <i>Rule of law</i>	New Beginnings - courage Help others to feel welcome - loving Try to make our school community a better place – service, Think about everyone’s right to learn – respect Care about other people’s feelings - care Work well with others/Harvest – co-operation
2	Celebrating Difference All Saint’s Day St Andrew’s Day Advent Christmas Hanukah	Belonging <i>Tolerance of other faiths and beliefs and no faith</i>	Accept that everyone is different – diversity Include others when working and playing -inclusivity Know how to help if someone is being bullied – integrity, justice Try to solve problems-creativity Use kind words – kindness Know how to give and receive – service, generosity Advent – giving, patience Compliments – humility, grace Christmas – generosity
3	Dreams and Goals, Epiphany	Believing, Building a future <i>Individual liberty</i>	Stay motivated when doing something challenging -resilience Keep trying even when it is difficult – perseverance, trust Work well with a partner or in a group – co-operation/tolerance Have a positive attitude – joy, peace Help self to achieve their goals – effort, creativity
4	Healthy Me, Lent St David’s Day St Patrick’s Day Ramadan Purim (Mar 23/24 th) Eid al-Fitr April 9 th approx Easter	Believing <i>Tolerance of other faiths and beliefs and no faith</i>	Lent – sacrifice, patience Choices – integrity World Book Day Science Week – creativity, wisdom Know how to be a good friend – friendship, trust Easter
5	Relationships St George’s Day Passover (22 nd -30 th) Pentecost/Trinity	Belonging <i>Democracy</i>	Know how to make friends - forgiveness Passover/St George’s Day Try to solve friendship problems – understanding Help others to feel part of a group - belonging Show respect in how they treat others - respect Pentecost/Trinity - Know how to help themselves and others when they feel upset or hurt – compassion Know and show what makes a good relationship -love, peace
6	Changing Me Shavuot (Jun11-13 th) Eid al-Adha 16 th June St Peter’s Day (June 29 th)	Building a future <i>Individual liberty</i>	Everyone is unique and special – liberty Can express how they feel when change happens - wisdom Understand and respect the changes that they see in themselves - wisdom Are looking forward to change – hope