



GRAYSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Church of England (Aided)

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Schedule	
Last reviewed	September 2026
Shared with staff and Governing Body	September 2026
Next Review	September 2027

Version history- version 2- the following was adapted/added/changed on 16.9.2025

Section	Changes made	By whom
4. The weekly schedule of collective worship at Grayswood	Once a week, Collective Worship is led by Clergy from our local Church, All Saints' in Grayswood. These acts of worships are planned with the RE Subject Leader and are based around our core Christian values. Each half term, we concentrate on exploring one of our 6 values in depth. <i>Changed to:</i> Once a week, Collective Worship is led by Clergy from our local Church, All Saints' in Grayswood. At the start of each half term Reverend Fi introduces one of the 6 values in depth using the Core Bible Story. Subsequent weeks follow Guildford Diocese's assembly plans.	Amanda Burrell
5. Visitors and Governors	Every half term we hold a 'Grayswood Values Award Ceremony' when Governors present a child from each class with an award for displaying our school values. <i>Changed to:</i> Every term we hold a 'Grayswood Values Award Ceremony' when Governors present a child from each class with an award for displaying our school values.	Amanda Burrell
9. Prayer Space, Pause Day and Interfaith Week	We use Guildford Diocese plans for Pause Days. Deleted	Amanda Burrell
12. Appendix	Row added – Welcome Service - Reception Class only with their parents and selected pupils from other classes	Amanda Burrell

Version 3- the following was adapted/added/changed on 20.9.2026

Section	Changes made	By whom
9. Prayer Space and Pause Day	Removal of interfaith week- other faiths are covered through the curriculum and trips	Hannah Cole
12. Linked policies	Added	Hannah Cole

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1. Introduction



Welcome to Grayswood CE Primary School- a place where everyone counts.

Grayswood is a friendly village school, situated within an idyllic location, with one class per year from Reception to Year 6. Our Christian values of *love, kindness, respect, teamwork, perseverance and forgiveness* and our mission statement '*Love one another as I have loved you*' (John 15:12) underpin the ethos and relationships in our school, however we are inclusive of differing faiths and none and welcome diversity.

The worship of the school is based on Christian principles. We uphold the importance of the contribution of staff and pupils in the development of the whole school ethos in which we share together in worship to support the promotion of our Christian values.

*Everybody at Grayswood Church of England Primary School is nurtured and loved as a unique child of God. Growing together through **perseverance** and **teamwork**, we learn to **love** and **forgive** with **kindness** and **respect**. As we flourish, we embrace the future with hope, confidence and positivity.*

'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15:12)

Our mission statement to '*Love one another as I have loved you*' is at the heart of our school and feeds into all aspects of life here at Grayswood.

As a Church of England school, we believe it is important to develop core values by which to live and which help develop spiritual and moral awareness; so we have broken our mission statement down into 6 main values which we expect all members of the school community to model – children, staff, parents, governors and clergy. These values will be explored in depth over the school year, through collective worship, class reflection times and RE lessons.

Children and staff of all faiths and none are welcome at our school and our aims are to promote understanding and tolerance between those of different faith traditions. As well as being rooted in the Christian vision, the values we've identified are appreciated by people of other faiths and also people of no faiths.

2. How our Christian values are demonstrated through our collective worship

Christian value	Love	Respect	Kindness	Perseverance	Teamwork	Forgiveness
Links with the Bible	John 15:12 'Jesus is like a vine'	Genesis 7-8 'Noah and the Ark'	Luke 10 25-37 'Good Samaritan'	Luke 4 'Jesus in the wilderness'	Mark 2 2-11 Luke 5 17-26 'Jesus heals the paralysed man'	Luke 19 'Zacchaeus'
Core Bible Story	Crucifixion Mary's love for Jesus	Genesis 3 'The beginning of sin' Matthew 7:12 'The most important rule'	John 6 'Feeding the 5000' Matthew 2 'Three Wise Men'	Luke 2: 25-35 'Simeon sees Jesus' John 10 'Jesus is the Good Shepherd' Psalms 51	Nehemiah 2-6 'Rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem'	Luke 15 'Prodigal Son' Psalms 32 Genesis 45 'Joseph reveals who he is'
Assembly themes	Autumn 1 Start of a new year Love Harvest Service Black History Month	Autumn 2 Respect Remembrance Diwali Christmas/Nativities Christmas Church Service	Spring 1 Kindness New year and a new start 'Random acts of kindness' week Safer Internet Day	Spring 2 Perseverance Easter Lent Chinese New Year World Book Day International Women's Day	Summer 1 Teamwork Sports Day	Summer 2 Forgiveness Transition (secondary school)
British Value Links	Democracy and Rule of Law	Tolerance and Mutual Respect	Individual Liberty	Individual Liberty	Recap all	Recap all

3. Aims and objectives of our acts of collective worship

- Collective Worship themes are seen in the context of a planned framework.
- Collective Worship contributes towards the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils.
- Collective Worship demonstrates links between morality and religious belief. We often use fables and stories during Collective Worship to get the children thinking and then move on to a Bible story or verse later to illustrate the aims of the sessions.
- Worship gives the opportunity to acknowledge the larger world we inhabit and to be touched by its mystery and wonder.
- Diversity in religion, race and culture is regarded as a positive contribution to the life of the school.

Objectives

- To use the Bible/Bible stories as a source for inspiration and learning.
- To reflect upon Christian symbols and their use in worship.
- To observe the cycle of the Anglican Year:
Advent > Christmas > Lent > Easter > Pentecost > Harvest
- A variety of Saints' days are incorporated into Collective Worship, particularly with Saints for which we can see a link specifically with our values.
- To hold special services from time to time, e.g. welcoming new pupils, or acknowledging the older leavers.
- To acknowledge that prayer (or quiet reflection) requires sensitivity and care and is suitable to the ages and background of the pupils.
- To provide opportunities to develop a variety of attitudes – wonder, reverence, compassion, curiosity, commitment and reflection.

4. The weekly schedule of collective worship at Grayswood

See appendix 1 for the organisation of collective worship for the current academic year.

Over the course of the week, Collective Worship is based on themes that link in with our school values of Love, Kindness, Respect, Teamwork, Perseverance and Forgiveness. Once a week, Collective Worship is led by Clergy from our local Church, All Saints' in Grayswood. At the start of each half term Reverend Fi introduces one of the 6 values in depth using the Core Bible Story. Subsequent weeks follow Guildford Diocese's assembly plans.

There is a weekly 'Singing' Assembly, where we invite children in together to sing a variety of Christian songs, traditional and new, which are planned to link in with our Collective Worship themes and values.

Once a week we use resources from 'Picture News Primary' which helps our pupils explore current affairs. The children generate their own opinions and interests and it brings the world closer to the classroom. The children then use the reflection questions which forms their class reflection.

The end of the week Celebration Assembly invites parents of children who have earned a special certificate that week. We also have a weekly values award, which teachers can nominate pupils for in any class. This is awarded when a member of staff has noticed a child making a special

effort to put one of our core values into action, such as by helping someone else in the playground.

Our school worship team are responsible for lighting and extinguishing the candle, arranging the resources, leading our opening and closing responses, leading prayers and hymns and being actively involved in the worship.

5. Visitors and Governors

We welcome visitors to our collective worship. Some visitors are invited to Grayswood C of E School to share their experiences with our pupils and the purpose of their visit would be to link with the theme of the collective worship.

All visitors should understand that in school E is for Education not Evangelism and avoid proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Governors are welcome and encouraged to attend our assemblies at any time. Every term we hold a 'Grayswood Values Award Ceremony' when Governors present a child from each class with an award for displaying our school values. These are written by the child's teacher and then presented by Governors.

6. The elements of worship

Great sensitivity is required by the leader of the act of worship to be inclusive in style, but to allow the individual to participate only so far as their conscience will permit – to listen and reflect if necessary.

7. Class assemblies

Throughout the academic year, each class presents one class assembly. Parents are welcome to attend and watch their child participate.

8. Church festivals and celebrations

At Grayswood C of E Primary we celebrate the major Anglican Church festivals. Each year group takes one of the festivals and leads the church service (*see appendix 1*).

9. Prayer Space and Pause Day

Throughout the academic year, with the help of the worship team, we plan for two prayer spaces each year and one pause day (at Easter).

Prayer spaces are themed differently each term through discussion with the Worship Team e.g. The world around us, new beginning etc.

See appendix 1 for the organisation of these extra enrichment opportunities.

10. Monitoring, review and inspection

It is the role of the Governors to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship.

We seek feedback from the children through pupil voice and the school worship team and staff about collective worship annually.

The school will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection.

11. Right of withdrawal

To meet the requirements of the Education Act 1988, pupils take part in an act of collective worship on each school day. It is a requirement that worship must be wholly, or mainly, of a broadly Christian character. Religious education is part of the basic curriculum giving opportunities to form part of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the child. Any parent wishing to withdraw their child from assembly or RE may approach the Head Teacher.

12. Linked policies

RE policy

Appendix 1:

Organisation of Collective Worship for the academic year 2026-2027

We hold a daily act of worship at Grayswood School and these take various forms: the exact day that the style of worship takes place may vary depending on the activities in the school and availability of visitors.

This is the intended pattern for collective worship;

Day	Type of worship	Leader
Monday	Whole school worship – Biblical stories	Rev. Fiona Gwynn
Tuesday	Whole school worship – Singing Assembly	Mrs Amanda Burrell (RE Lead)
Wednesday	Whole school worship – Using 'Picture News' worship resources	Headteacher and Teachers
Thursday	Class reflection – Follow on questions from 'Picture News' assembly	Class Teachers – Mixed Classes Reception Year 1 & 2 Year 3 & 4 Year 5 & 6
Friday	Whole school worship – Celebration Assembly	Headteacher

Church Services

Service	Class
Welcome	Reception Class only with their parents and selected pupils from other classes
Harvest	Year 1
Christmas	Year 5
Ash Wednesday	Year 4
Easter	Year 2
Pentecost	Year 3
Leavers	Year 6

Prayer Space, Pause Day

Prayer Space	Pause Day
Autumn Term	Spring Term – Easter
Summer Term	