



GRAYSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
Church of England (Aided)

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Schedule	
Reviewed	September 2023
Shared with Governing Body	October 2023
Next Review	September 2024



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.

How our Christian values are demonstrated through our collective worship

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

Aims 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 for our acts of collective worship

- 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.

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 PSHE themes that link in with our school values of Love, Kindness, Respect, Teamwork, Perseverance and Forgiveness. Each theme is explored with Bible stories and there is a focus assembly, which will centre on a key question that the children will explore further in class reflection time later the same week. 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, Collective Worship is led by Clergy from our local Church, All Saints' in Grayswood. These acts of worship 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. 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.

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 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. These are written by the child's teacher and then presented by Governors.

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.

Class assemblies

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

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*).

Prayer Space, Pause Day and Interfaith Week

Throughout the academic year, with the help of the worship team, we plan for one prayer space each term, one pause day (at Easter) and an interfaith week.

Prayer spaces are themed differently each term through discussion with the Worship Team e.g. Nativity, summer, new beginning etc.

We use Guildford Diocese plans for Pause Days.

Interfaith weeks are designed to engage children in understanding all different faiths.

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

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 interviews and the school worship team and staff about collective worship annually.

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

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.

Appendix 1 Organisation of Collective Worship for the academic year 2023-2024

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	Miss Amanda Harling (RE Lead) with LSA's
Wednesday	Whole school worship – Values, PSHE based	Headteacher and Teachers
Thursday	Class reflection – Big Questions	Class Teachers – Mixed Classes Reception Year 1 & 2 Year 3 & 4 Year 5 & 6
Friday	Whole school worship – Celebration Assembly	Headteacher/Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

Church Services

Service	Class
Harvest	Year 1
Christmas	Year 5
Ash Wednesday	Year 4
Easter	Year 2
Pentecost	Year 3
Leavers	Year 6

Prayer Space, Pause Days and Interfaith Week

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