



St Stephen's

CE Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

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

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 13:34

Learning, loving and growing; together as God's children.

Introduction

We are proud to be a nurturing, inclusive, diverse church school at the centre of our community, where all children and staff are encouraged to continue *'learning, loving and growing; together as God's children'*.

Our Vision

Our *vision* is about **celebrating the uniqueness of every individual, inspiring a life long love of learning and experiencing life in all its fullness.** It is rooted in John 13:34:

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

Our school will be a place where:

- everyone feels safe, welcome and valued.
- everyone feels excitement, joy and challenge through developing their God-given gifts to achieve.
- everyone flourishes and excels, grows in character, faith and wisdom and develops hope and aspiration.
- everyone is equipped to move on in their journey with confidence, resilience and motivation.
- In partnership with others we seek to serve and make a valuable contribution to God's world.

Our Core Christian Values

Thankfulness – Love – Respect – Forgiveness – Kindness – Friendship

Aims and Objectives of Collective Worship

St Stephen's aims to provide a challenging, yet nurturing, environment based on our vision, mission and core Christian Values. It is our responsibility as a Church of England school to provide the children with the building blocks of the Christian faith through the means of worship, prayer and familiarity with Scripture. Our children are challenged to think for themselves about the big questions that face the world today, within an environment which is accepting of other faiths and cultures.

All the children in our care are children of God and are created in His likeness. God is love and he wants the best for His children. He wants us to have life in all its fullness, and central to the Christian faith is the truth that he sent His Son to die for us so that we might be forgiven and by His grace receive eternal life, and to build a relationship with Him of love and trust. He never said that things would be easy, but that He is with us by His Spirit in whatever situations we find ourselves. As we grow in that relationship and allow His Spirit to work in our lives, we see the outworking of that in all we do, think and say. Our core Christian values are integral to our daily lives.

We nurture and celebrate each person within our school family; individuals are respected and valued equally without regard to ability, gender, faith, heritage or race.

Through providing an exciting, engaging and thought provoking collective worship curriculum we encourage children to explore, ask questions, reflect and grow as unique individuals. We want our pupils to leave St. Stephen's and make a valuable contribution to the world in which they live.

The Format

Learning, loving and growing; together as God's children.

An act of Collective Worship takes place every day and is an important part of school life, making space for pupils and staff to come together and share in worship through learning, music, reflection and prayer. Our worship is inclusive and gives all of the school community the chance to be part of the experience, while respecting the integrity of family and cultural backgrounds.

The weekly pattern of collective worship looks like this:

	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
Monday	Whole School Picture News Collective Worship – led by Mrs Garside and the Picture News Pioneers 3.00pm-3.25pm		
Tuesday	Big Frieze (hall) 3:00pm Mrs Denney	Class Worship – what does the Bible say?	My Happy Mind Class worship
Wednesday	My Happy Mind Class worship	Big Frieze (hall) 3:00pm Mrs Denney	Class Worship – what does the Bible say?
Thursday	Class Worship – what does the Bible say?	My Happy Mind Class worship	Big Frieze (hall) 3:00pm Mrs Denney
Friday	Whole School Celebration Collective Worship led by Mrs Denney/Mrs Parsons 3.00pm - 3.25pm.		

Our EYFS follow their own collective worship overview and join us each Friday for celebration worship.

The Role of the wider school community

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year. Children will have opportunities to help lead collective worship in their classes daily during prayer time and weekly during the staff/pupil led collective worship. There is an opportunity for all classes to plan, lead and deliver a whole class assembly each term of which parents are invited. We also celebrate Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter.

Vicar Paul Sanderson and Reverend Kathy Selby visit our school regularly and lead classroom worship.

Teachers and the Headteacher lead Collective Worship during the week and there is a Celebration worship each Friday to celebrate pupil's achievements.

Monitoring and Review

Children and staff evaluate and give feedback on each assembly.

Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.

Signed: Mrs S J Denney

Updated: September 2023

Next review: September 2024