Part of the

Collective Worship Policy

'Loved by God and one another, Holy Trinity is a welcoming community of faith, where we learn and flourish together.

Each day opens up horizons of hope, aspiration and joy!'

Updated	September 2026

Rationale

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School is committed to creating *'a welcoming community of faith'* where we learn and flourish together. The school recognises, as with all areas of the curriculum, Collective Worship should be a valid educational experience, and that, as set down in the 1988 Education Reform Act, the nature of the Collective Worship is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. As an Anglican Church school our daily act of Collective Worship is fundamental to our Christian ethos.

Definition of Collective Worship

At Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, we understand 'collective worship' as an act which is additional to, and separate from, ordinary school activities. Collective Worship is a time when individuals collaborate to promote the Christian values which are fundamental to our school ethos. To take part in Collective Worship implies more than passive attendance, such that it should have the ability to elicit responses from pupils even though they may not feel able to actively identify in the act of worship on a particular occasion. Collective Worship invites everyone to take an active part in our worship**.**

Ethos

Collective Worship is a time for sharing and togetherness, a sharing of knowledge, feelings and experiences. Collective Worship is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements and challenges together. Collective Worship is an important part of our school life as it gives us the opportunity to celebrate, as well as encouraging our pupils to think about their place in the world, through Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. Our worship promotes Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. It is a time when we foster a sense of belonging to our school, to the wider community of Ripon and to the global society and world in which we live. It is a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. All members of our community are encouraged to learn about the beliefs of others in addition to their own as part of the religious education national curriculum.

Within our Collective Worship there is an invitational opportunity to worship God. In our school this will involve leading people to the threshold of worship by providing a setting where they may worship God if they so wish. Our worship is inclusive, inspirational and invitational no matter where it is held or who is leading.

Inclusive: something for children and teachers, of all faiths or of none to be able to join in with.
Inspirational: a time in the day to think about the big questions in our lives; an occasion that supports our school community's spiritual development.
Invitational: an opportunity for those of any religious faith or none to focus and reflect on stimuli which allow the human spirit to respond with integrity.

Legal Requirements

All schools must take note of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Section 70 and Schedule 20) which requires that:

1. All registered pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdrawal) must on each school day take part in an act of Collective Worship.
2. The daily act of Collective Worship should be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deeds of the school and the ethos statement in the Instrument of Government and should be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England.
3. All acts of Collective Worship in Church schools must be Christian in character. Pupils can be grouped in various ways for worship such as the whole school, year groups, tutor groups, classes, or other combinations.
4. Acts of worship must be appropriate for the pupils in that they should take account of the pupils' age, aptitude and family backgrounds.

5. The daily act of Collective Worship will normally take place on the school premises but all schools may hold their Act of Collective Worship elsewhere (e.g. the local Parish Church) on special occasions.
6. Responsibility for the arrangement of Collective Worship in a Church of England school rests with the Local Governing Body in consultation with the Headteacher. Foundation Governors have a special role in ensuring the Collective Worship is linked to the Trust Deeds.
7. The Headteacher has a responsibility to ensure all arrangements for Collective Worship are secured.

Rights and Responsibilities

As established by the 1944 Act and reinforced in this policy, parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. If a parent is considering withdrawing their child from Collective Worship, they should make contact with the Headteacher in writing. However, it is hoped that no one will feel the need to exercise this right. Should such a situation arise, appropriate arrangements would be made in keeping with the requirements of the Act. This includes the school continuing to be responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn by its parent from Collective Worship.

Anglican Faith and Practice

In addition to the above, we provide acts of Collective Worship that reflect the faith and practice of the Church of England as a part of the heritage of our schools. We use the following indicators:
BIBLICAL The Bible is used to encounter the teachings of Jesus and as a sourcebook for inspiration and learning. Pupils are made familiar with the Lord's Prayer, psalms and other verses of scripture.
LITURGICAL Aspects of Anglican liturgy, such as greetings, are used to create a framework for worship; pupils are also introduced to a variety of well-known prayers – many of which express central beliefs of Christians throughout the ages.
EUCHARISTIC We introduce children to the central act of Anglican worship, either in RE or through our own school celebration with the local clergy.
SEASONAL We observe the cycle of the Anglican year including celebrations of the major Christian festivals.
SYMBOLIC We use Christian symbols as a focus for reflection.
ECUMENICAL We work with other local Christian denominations.
DIVERSE We provide opportunities to discover the variety of worship in Anglican churches e.g., through valuing both meditation and silence, dance, prayer, reflection, story, quiet songs and louder expressions of praise.

At Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, we seek to provide a worship space which is attractive and well prepared with thought given to colour, space, seating, ambience and music. We foster links with Holy Trinity, our parish Church, involving clergy in leading / joining us for Collective Worship and providing coherence with worship in church. We visit Holy Trinity at least every half term as part of the Christian calendar and to offer the opportunity for our pupils to experience worship in the wider church as well as attending Diocese events.

Connections with other Christian denominations and faiths

The Anglican Communion sees itself as part of a global church and promotes ecumenism. At Holy Trinity, we work to promote links with other local churches and Christian organisations and welcome their clergy and leaders as contributors to acts of collective worship. Within our Collective Worship the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly. We recognise that some of our pupils and families belong to Anglican churches, some worship regularly at churches of other Christian denominations, while others come from different faith backgrounds or none. We endeavour to provide a setting in which no-one's integrity is compromised, where everyone finds something positive for themselves, and there is no pressure to participate inappropriately or to believe.

Organisation

Our worship is structured to help pupils understand the Anglican structure of worship:

- Gather
- Welcome
- Engage
- Respond
- Big Question
- Reflect/Spiritual Development
- Sing and Praise
- Send

Key features of Collective Worship at Holy Trinity

- Children are invited take an active part in an act of Collective Worship every day.
- A candle/or candles representing the trinity are lit to show that the act of worship has begun and to signify this is a significant time within the school day.
- Class candles are brought from individual classes
- The focal table at the front of the school reflects themes of worship and the liturgical calendar.
- All members of staff are given the opportunity to lead Collective Worship.
- The clergy from Trinity Bethel, Open the Book, the Salvation Army, Methodist Church and the Cathedral are introduced to school at the beginning of the school year and are invited to lead Collective Worship either at the school or in church.
- Visits to Holy Trinity church are planned each half term and to celebrate festivals and key events during the school year.
- Themes are followed on a planned annual cycle as well as giving importance to events in the Christian year; the wonders of the world; humankind's challenges, achievements and failures and the celebration of religious festivals.
- Collective Worship themes are presented in a variety of ways, e.g. through story, prose, poetry, drama, art, music, discussion.
- Collective Worship includes the singing of hymns and songs and opportunities are given, both to join in with and to listen to prayers.
- The school has whole school prayer which all children will know and understand; an interactive Lord's Prayer is also shared.
- Time within Collective Worship is planned for calmness, silence and reflection.
- Children sit in a formation around the focal point so there is an element of togetherness
- Every Friday the school holds a 'Praise Worship' when parents are invited to celebrate pupil achievement awards.
- Parents are invited to Praise Worship' and we encourage them to attend, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and schoolwork together to support the achievements of our children.

Worship Warriors

The school has a team of pupil Worship Warriors who support and lead Collective Worship. Pupils apply to be Worship Warriors highlighting keys skills they can offer the team. Worship Warriors also plan and lead worship in church during key celebrations such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

Planning

Planning for Collective Worship is led by the Headteacher and supported by the incumbent, youth worker and Fellowship Lead. Plans follow the cycle of the Anglican year, celebrating festivals and saints' days as appropriate. Over the year the Collective Worships explore Christian values and develop spirituality in a variety of ways, through story, song, prayer and reflection.

The theme for Collective Worship changes half termly and are as follows:

Autumn 1: Hope; **Autumn 2:** Peace; **Spring 1:** Love; **Spring 2:** Forgiveness; **Summer 1:** Flourishing; **Summer 2: Courage**.

Inclusion

Our understanding of Christianity is that it is an inclusive faith which mirrors the attitude of Christ in the Gospels. In line with the Equalities Act 2010, we are committed to equality of opportunity regardless of race, gender, cultural background, ability, religion, physical or sensory disability or any other protected characteristic. We therefore aim to make Collective Worship accessible to all and accommodate ourselves to individual needs as appropriate e.g. taking account of different learning styles and using multi-sensory approaches.

As a 'welcoming community of faith' Holy Trinity welcomes children and staff of all faiths. Through our Christian character our acts of Collective Worship will:

- ✓ recognise and celebrate the diversity of cultures, lifestyles and faiths which exist in our school and
- ✓ local community. have an atmosphere in which everyone feels valued and safe.
- ✓ be appropriate for every pupil to attend.
- ✓ focus on issues and experiences which are relevant to our pupils.
- ✓ foster active roles of pupils, parents and members of the local community – in preparation,
- ✓ participation and leadership.

Contribution to Spiritual Moral Social Cultural Education (SMSC)

Holy Trinity recognises that although SMSC development is fostered across the whole curriculum, acts of Collective Worship provide a multitude of opportunities in this area.
Acts of Collective Worship will aim to:

- ✓ nurture and maintain the dignity of the image of God in human beings through working for social
- ✓ justice and encouraging students to consider the needs of others through charitable service.
- ✓ nurture reflection, meditation and prayer.
- ✓ provide pupils with opportunities to explore the spiritual dimension of their lives through music,
- ✓ images and words.
- ✓ provide a sense of occasion that separates them from the rest of the school day.
- ✓ foster an appreciation of the natural created world and our shared responsibilities for maintaining it.
- ✓ develop clear partnerships between worship in the school and the wider community.

Monitoring, Evaluation SIAMS

The school regularly evaluates our acts of Collective Worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors. We also welcome the contributions of parents and pupils through our open-door policy and questionnaires, which are reviewed and considered in a timely manner.

Appendix 1

Collective Worship Schedule Autumn 2026

Autumn 1: Hope			
Day/Date	**Staff**	**Theme**	**Christian Worship**
14.09.2026	Marco	Jesus Calms the Storm	HOPE that things will get better if you put your faith in Christ
15.09.2026	Amanda	On this day - 9:11 Why did it happen?	God made all people equal no matter their ethnicity, religion etc.
16.09.2026	Rev Phil	HOPE	
17.09.2026	Marco	Singing	
18.09.2026	SLT	Praise	
21.09.2026	Marco	God's Promise to Abraham	Trust in God and God will reward those who live out his values
22.09.2026	Amanda	On this day - Harriet Tubman's Escape	God gave Harriet the courage to stand up and give others Hope
23.09.2026	Matt	HOPE	
24.09.2026	Marco	Singing	
25.09.2026	SLT	Praise	
28.09.2026	Marco	Jesus and the Leper	Jesus gave hope to those in need. God loves everyone equally.
29.09.2026	Church Staff	OPEN THE BOOK	
30.09.2026	Ju	(From Bethel Church) HOPE	
01.10.2026	Marco	Singing	
02.10.2026	SLT	Praise	
05.10.2026	Marco	Esher	We should aspire to have HOPE even when times are hard.
06.10.2026	Marco	Harvest Singing	Thank God for the harvest.
07.10.2026	All	Harvest Festival	Thank God for the harvest.
08.10.2026	Amanda	World Mental Health Day	Praying to God and spiritual moments can help ease our worries.
09.10.2026	SLT	Praise	
12.10.2026	Marco	Joseph Rowntree	
13.10.2026	Amanda	TBC	
14.10.2026	Dr Nicholas	(from Holy Trinity Church) Hope	
15.10.2026	Marco	Singing	
16.10.2026	SLT	Praise	
19.10.2026	Marco	The sermon on the mount	Jesus teaches the values for life.
20.10.2026	Amanda	The seed of hope	During difficult times, Jesus plants seeds of HOPE in the hearts of Christians.
21.10.2026	Rev Ian	(Local Methodist Minister (HOPE)	
22.10.2026	Julie	Faith and Crackers	
23.10.2026	SLT	Praise	

Autumn 2: Peace			
Day/Date	**Staff**	**Theme**	**Christian Worship**
02.11.2026	Marco	Noah's Ark	God made the promise to never flood the world again and bring PEACE
03.11.2026	Amanda	The Gunpowder Plot	There conflict is now largely over and is PEACE between Catholics/CE.
04.11.2026	Rev Phil		
05.11.2026	Marco	Singing	
06.11.2026	SLT	Praise	
09.11.2026	Marco	Remembrance and Symbols	God created a world for everyone. He wants us to live in PEACE.
10.11.2026	Julie	Remembrance (2)	God created a world for everyone. He wants us to live in PEACE.
11.11.2026	All	Remembrance Service	God created a world for everyone. He wants us to live in PEACE.
12.11.2026	Marco	Singing	
13.11.2026	SLT	Praise	
16.11.2026	Marco	Mud Boy (Anti-Bullying)	Asking God for help can give us courage to speak up against bullying.
17.11.2026	Amanda	Anti-Bullying Week	Asking God for help can give us courage to speak up against bullying.
18.11.2026	Matt	Anti-bullying	Asking God for help can give us courage to speak up against bullying.
19.11.2026	Marco	Singing	
20.11.2026	SLT	Praise	
23.11.2026	Marco	Saul on the road to Damascus	No one is too far from God's love, and people can change.
24.11.2026		OPEN THE BOOK	
25.11.2026	Visitor		
27.11.2026	SLT	Praise	
30.11.2026	All	Christingle in Church (14:45)	Celebration of Christ as the light of the world.
01.12.2026	Amanda	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	God created a diverse world in which everyone should be treated equally.
02.12.2026	Visitor	Ripon Walled Garden	God created a diverse world in which everyone should be treated equally.
03.12.2026	Walled Garden	Choir	
04.12.2026	SLT	Praise	
07.12.2026	Marco	On this Day – Montgomery Bus Boycott (Peace)	Rosa Parks was given the courage by God to stand up for what was right.
08.12.2026	Amanda	Mary and Joseph as Refugees	Mary/Jospeh showed that refugees can become great people.
09.12.2026	Rev. Phil	The birth of John the Baptist	
10.12.2026	Marco	Singing	
11.12.2026	SLT	Praise	Link to advent candle (joy)
14.12.2026	Marco	The Shepherds' Good News (Joy)	Link to advent candle (joy)
15.12.2026	Amanda	The birth of Jesus (Joy)	
16.12.2026	Julie/Marco	Christmas Service Rehearsal	
17.12.2026	All	Christmas Service in Church (09:10)	