



Lightcliffe C of E Primary School **Policies & Procedures**

Policy Title: Collective Worship

Approved on	23 rd March 2026
Approved by	Local Governing Board
Last reviewed on	1 st February 2024
Next review due	23 rd February 2028

Lightcliffe C of E Primary School is one of 8 schools in the Abbey Multi-Academy Trust. The Trust's mission is:

To work in partnership to educate, nurture and empower.

We are confident that genuine collaboration fundamentally drives the way in which we make a difference to the lives of all our learners. Through school to school collaboration we can live out our mission and ensure that our students can.... *live life in all its fullness (John 10:10).*

At Lightcliffe our vision is:

Inspiring and flourishing together

'Lightcliffe Church of England Primary School is a flourishing community. Rooted in God's guidance, we inspire and are inspired. We value all, are kind to all and enable each other to succeed.'

Rationale

At Lightcliffe C of E primary School, we believe that Collective Worship both supports and strengthens what we aim to do in every aspect of school life. Our caring ethos and the values we place on the development of the whole child is reflected in our worship. We value this, as it gives time for pupils to develop a reflective approach to life and the ability to express their reflections in traditionally religious ways, or any other appropriate manner.

Our Collective Worship fulfils the requirement that the school provides a daily act of Collective Worship for all pupils according to The Education Reform Act 1988 (and consolidated in the 1996 Education Act). It also fulfils the Diocesan requirements for a church school which states that worship will be broadly Christian in content, consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England.

Aims

Our aim is that worship contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children and staff.

Providing a regular act of Collective Worship for all pupils, enables them to:

- worship God
- reflect on Christian values for both school and personal development
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- respond to the Christian language and symbolism, and have the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet
- begin to understand the nature of worship
- encourage a sense of awe and wonder and foster a respect for the world and its peoples.

At Lightcliffe our acts of worship are distinctly Christian in content and follows the Church of England liturgical calendar. Whether it be whole school, key stage or classed based our worship will:

- be inspiring or transformational
- be led by senior leaders, staff, clergy and visitors, with opportunities for pupils to lead aspects of our worship as part of a 'Worship Team'
- develop the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school
- focus on our Christian Values
- include a range of creative opportunities e.g. music, silence, symbol or drama
- involve pupils

- celebrates and gives thanks for personal and community achievements
- celebrate or commemorate occasions of significance
- celebrate festivals
- provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future
- usually take place in the school hall, but may also take place in classrooms, outside or St Matthew's Church

Content of our Worship

As a Church of England School the planned content of our worship:

- follows a half-termly Christian Value based upon 'Fruits and Roots' (Imaginer)
- covers all the major Christian festivals including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost
- is rooted in Bible teaching
- uses the school prayer, the Lord's Prayer and other prayers written by pupils
- may follow an order of service
- is presented using a variety of styles and may include music (classical, traditional or modern), objects for stimuli, story, drama, enthusiastic singing and our school orchestra
- reflection and reverence in prayer time
- is supplemented by the Picture News resource for Collective Class-based Worship

Christian Values

Through our worship, we seek to explore the meanings of Christian Values and their significance rooted in our everyday lives. These values are taught as part of our curriculum and embedded within the whole school life. In school we teach, live and recognise the following values – Compassion, Courage, Forgiveness, Friendship, Hope, Joy and Respect. Over a two-year cycle, through our acts of worship, we also teach the values of Justice, Perseverance, Service, Thankfulness, Trust and Truthfulness. Whilst these values are inclusive of human values, we are able to relate them to the Christian faith through Bible stories and readings.

A.S.P.I.R.E – Character Education

Worship provides an opportunity to integrate our Character Education, supporting the holistic development of every child: we ASPIRE to make a difference.

A – Aspire: Aim high, dream boldly, and strive for excellence I all we do.

S – Service: Lead with compassion and commitment, supporting others with purpose.

P – Partnership: Build strong, collaborative relationships rooted in trust and shared goals.

I – Intrepid: Be courageous advocates, speaking up and taking action to help to positively shape the world around us.

R – Resilience: Persevere through challenges with strength and determination, embracing setbacks as opportunities to grow, learn and thrive.

E – Equity: Ensure fairness, inclusion and opportunity for everyone.

Picture News

The Picture News resource for Class-based Worship explores a moral or ethical issue. Resources are provided for class-teachers to lead worship through its material. Follow up activities are available, and Special Reports are issued at times of significant events.

Community Links

We value our links with the clergy of St Matthew's Church and we hold our Harvest, Christmas and Easter services in church. The children also have the opportunity to attend as part of the RE curriculum or for celebration services such as our Year 6 leavers assembly in the summer term. The

vicar is regularly invited to hold acts of worship throughout the year. Other visitors are invited into school to lead on or take part in assemblies.

Equal Opportunities

All pupils have equal opportunity to take part in collective worship and the school discourages the withdrawal of pupils for academic work. To reflect our commitment to equality and diversity, the school encourages inclusion, cultural diversity and empathy a variety of multi-cultural material, as well as Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) resources are available in school which can be used as part of our worship.

Inclusion and Withdrawal

Collective Worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have the legal right to withdraw their child/ren from all or part of worship. In choosing to send their child to a Church of school the Governors expect that parents are thereby committing to their child's full participation in the Christian life of the school.

Monitoring

This policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school. The school will review the implementation and effectiveness of this policy every two years for approval by the school's Governing body.