

Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Responsible Body
05/11/2024	November 2025	RE Co-Ordinator	Local Committee

1. Purpose of the Policy

The 1988 Reform Act states that the daily act of collective worship should be part of a balanced curriculum which promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils and should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of collective worship which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and Foundation. This requirement is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

This policy outlines the way in which worship forms a central aspect of the life of the school, the principles that underpin it and its links to the whole school ethos.

Queen Eleanor's CofE Junior School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School and as such has a Christian tradition and ethos. Our collective worship reflects and reinforces the school's aims, ethos and vision:

Queen Eleanor's is a church school that serves the community:

- A loving, welcoming and respectful environment that celebrates children and families of all faiths and none
- Provides an eco-friendly oasis of green space that supports physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing
- Values a rich and growing diversity, enabling all children to have a voice and become global citizens
- Nurtures curiosity and enables children to thrive and achieve academically

At Queen Eleanor's CofE Junior School, we consider collective worship to be an important part of the school day, as it is not only an opportunity to reflect and develop the school's distinctive Christian character, but also an opportunity to contribute to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of pupils and staff.

2. Aims

- a) Be a daily expression of our school's Christian vision.
- b) Be inclusive, invitational and inspiring for **all** pupils, staff and parents and visitors.
- c) Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- d) Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, song, silence, story, prayer, reflection, varied liturgy and other traditions of Anglican worship, such as the celebration of festivals.
- e) Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world; to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of key Christian beliefs.
- f) Enable pupils as well as adults to engage in elements of planning, leading and evaluating collective worship with an aim to improve practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- g) Encourage local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

3. Format

There is a whole school, daily act of collective worship from 9.00 to 9.25 a.m. This is regarded as an essential way to begin the day – setting the tone for all members of the community.

The pattern of weekly collective worship is as follows:

Appendix- Assembly Rolling Programme

Monday	Whole school collective worship lead by the Senior Leadership Team delivered through the use of the diocese framework
Tuesday	Whole school collective worship led by clergy/members of our local churches/community or the school Faith Team with a focus on parables and religious festivals around the world
Wednesday	Singing assembly
Thursday	Collective worship in class delivered using the Picture News scheme to encourage pupils and adults to reflect on current world events
Friday	Celebration assembly

4. The Act of Worship

Our methods are child centred but reflect the Anglican Liturgy by having a format that is recognisable and repeated. Our rituals involve starting each act of worship with the words 'Peace be with you', to which the response is 'and also with you. At the end of collective worship, children and staff are invited to pray or respectfully reflect on what has been discussed.

Monday's worship is led by a member of the senior leadership team and will be multi-faceted to include a variety of ingredients: story, drama, readings, music, an artefact or anecdote to evoke a response. There will be a time for reflection and prayer. These assemblies follow the Diocese of Guildford collective worship scheme.

Tuesday's worship is led by our parish vicars, members of our parish churches, the RE lead or the elected school faith team. These assemblies present an opportunity to develop and explore the Christian link to Modern British Values through Biblical stories (parables). The collective worship opens with a piece of music selected by a member of the school community with an explanation as to why the piece of music is special to them. Once a half term, a religious festival is explored, often one that reflects the demographic of the school community, which is led by the RE lead/school elected Faith Team. This gives the children an opportunity to learn more about a range of religious events and develop their understanding of religions outside of Christianity alongside the R.E. curriculum and in support of the school's Christian vision.

Wednesday's worship is made up of singing; when children can enjoy and develop their Christian beliefs through this traditional medium.

Thursday's worship is led by class teachers in the classroom, giving children a chance to share their thoughts in a smaller space. Using our Picture News subscription, children and adults can explore current events going on across the world, linking them to British Values and protected characteristics. Children and adults are encouraged to reflect on their emotional response to world events, think deeply about their personal beliefs and consider how Jesus' teachings can help us to navigate our thoughts. The session closes with an invitation to prayer or reflection, using relevant liturgy.

Friday's worship is a celebration of the children's achievements: head teacher, class teacher, house point, sports and attendance awards, whole school singing and reflecting on the positive highlights from across the week.

Each class will also have the opportunity to lead a class assembly once a year. This may take any variety of themes and is used as an opportunity to showcase children's gifts and talents. These assemblies are an important opportunity for parents to share in their child's development.

5. Inclusion

At QE we promote a whole school approach. During our weekly worship we invite all members of teaching and support staff to join us. This sets an important precedent about the value and significance of collective worship in our school.

We expect children and adults to be present during our daily acts of worship, apart from in certain circumstances. Call to prayer should be invitational, allowing those who do not wish to partake the opportunity for quiet reflection.

Appendix- Assembly Rolling Programme

6. Right to withdraw

We recognise that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from acts of worship.

It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers, contact needs to be made with the Headteacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school prospectus.

7. Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Collective worship is monitored by the Religious Education co-ordinator. It is also the role of the Governors to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. It is reviewed yearly by the Headteacher, R.E. coordinator and Senior Leadership team in consultation with the local vicar. Children evaluate and feedback through the school council and pupil voice sessions. The School will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection.