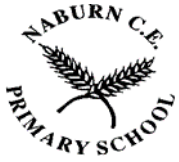


# Naburn CE Primary School



## Collective Worship Strategy

Reviewed 2024



## Naburn CE Primary School



“Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.” Genesis 9 v16

Every time we see a rainbow in the sky, we can remember that God loves us and will always look after us.

At Naburn, our vision is rooted in the Bible story of Noah and the Ark and reflects our strong ethos **in valuing and respecting everyone as an individual with their own unique qualities**. The Ark symbolises our school community: we are all on a journey together. We trust in God to help us reach our full potential through the positive and uplifting symbol of the rainbow that God sent as a covenant to Noah. Alongside respecting the dignity and potential of each individual person and being sensitive to the needs of a diverse society, we strive to enhance and strengthen our values of **Aspiration, Respect and Community**.

Our vision helps in guiding us to achieve our aspirations; to have a respect for the value of individuals and make positive contributions to our community and to wider society.

## **Policy Statement**

In Naburn Primary School worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. It is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A school is not a Church but is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of education. The family backgrounds may be very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils.

At Naburn C.E. Primary School collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love and service. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian faith. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

## **Church of England Guidance**

Our Collective Worship policy at Naburn C.E. Primary School draws on guidance from the Church of England. This guidance document has been produced to challenge, to guide and set expectations for Church school communities and diocesan authorities, encouraging them to reflect on their practice and to ensure that collective worship remains the relevant and essential component of an education that enables all pupils to flourish.

## **Legal requirements for Collective Worship**

At Naburn C.E. Primary School we hold a daily act of Collective Worship for all pupils which fulfils the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988, as amended by the Education Act 1993.

The Education Alliance trustees/ Naburn C.E. Primary School Governing Body have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document.

## **The right of withdrawal**

Part of the distinctively Christian nature of our Church of England School is that we are hospitable and inclusive to all in the community that we serve. Collective worship at Naburn C.E. Primary School occupies such a central place in the life of our Church school with our distinctive ethos of a Christian tradition. This is made clear on induction so children in our school and their families who are members of another faith, or who hold a non-religious world view are fully aware of this.

The 1944 and 1988 Education Acts state that parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. Other adults also have the right to withdraw from Collective Worship.

On occasions, a parent may make a request for their child to be withdrawn from Collective Worship. There is an expectation that parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the headteacher to discuss their concerns and requirements. It may be helpful to establish:

- The elements of worship in which the parent would object to the child taking part
- The other aspects of school life that are impacted by the Christian foundation of the school such as prayer and reflective areas
- The practical implications of withdrawal
- Whether the parent will require any advanced notice of such worship, and if so, how much

Where parents have withdrawn their children from collective worship and request religious worship according to their particular faith or denomination, the governors and head teacher will seek to respond positively to such requests providing:

- Such arrangements can be made at no additional cost to the school
- That the alternative provision would be consistent with the overall purposes of the school curriculum as set out in the Education Acts

If the Parent asks that a pupil should be wholly or partly excused from attending any religious worship at the school, then the school must comply.

### **Aims of collective worship**

Collective worship should be distinctive and inclusive and should also provide opportunities for pupils to be invited to:

- Worship God and promote the joy of worship as engaging, inspiring and transformative.
- To develop spirituality, morality, social and cultural values.
- Reaffirm, interpret and put into practice the Christian values of the school: Aspiration, Respect and Community
- Provide a peaceful environment enabling stillness, reflection and prayer.
- To give an opportunity to acquire a secure knowledge of the Christian faith as revealed in the Bible.
- To understand, celebrate and develop children's knowledge of a Christian beliefs, celebrations, traditions and religious festivals in the Anglican church year, thus use the seasons and festivals of the Christian year.
- To invite clergy and lay members of the parish and other Christian leaders in the community to lead worship weekly.
- Be distinctively Christian whilst supporting pupils and adults in their spiritual growth. Be the central vehicle by which the school's vision is unpacked and explored so that the whole school community is challenged and engaged with the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.

- Use and promote the clearly identified Christian values of this school as a church school.
- Enable participants to develop an understanding of Jesus Christ and a Christian understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Develop understanding of Anglican traditions and the practice of the local parish church.
- Support pupils in the development of their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief.
- Provide a variety of different opportunities for reflection, understanding of diverse liturgical traditions, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all who are present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality whilst contributing to the communal journey.
- Help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory foci and introduce them to some well know Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving e.g. before mealtimes
- Offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship with the support and shared engagement of the local church community. Pupils will be at the centre of this process taking on increasingly independent roles in planning and leading worship.

### **Themes for Collective Worship**

Our termly themes focus on a particular idea/concept e.g. the Christian year, RE curriculum, Journey Through the Bible (Diocese resource), festivals and celebrations within Christian and other faith traditions, Christian values, Jigsaw materials and celebrating achievements.

- We use a wide range of resources, aids and artefacts, drama and external speakers to engage children's Interests.
- Encouraging children to participate and experience different styles of worship e.g. prayer, praise, song, silence and becoming familiar with the language of worship, Biblical readings.
- Providing opportunities for pupils to reflect, contemplate on their thoughts, feelings and belief and writing prayers.
- Involving pupils and members of the community to both lead and participate in collective worship.
- Presenting and creating displays that promote and enhance spiritual ideas thoughts and questions.

### **Content of Collective Worship**

Each week we have a theme for our Collective Worship. We also ensure that information about collective worship is included on the school website and newsletters. These themes will be as varied as possible, but always offer opportunities for worship. Themes may include aspects of religious education and religious, festivals, social issues, moral concerns, seasonal and commemorative celebrations among others.

During Collective Worship we focus on:

- How the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God is explored
- How spiritual growth through prayer, stillness and reflection is nurtured.
- We focus on Christian values of the school are identified, expressed and celebrated through collective worship.
- How explicit links are made between Bible stories and the Christian values of the school.
- How a pattern for worship is used which reflects Anglican tradition.
- The range and variety of materials used, including: websites, artefacts, stories, drama scripts, artwork, music, songs, film clips, focal points e.g. a picture or candle.
- How opportunities are provided for children and adults to explore faith in today's world.

### **Central attributes of Collective Worship**

We will promote Collective Acts of Worship at Naburn C.E. Primary School, which is a meaningful experience. We have four central attributes of worship which help promote a sense of occasion and reverence:

- o **Gathering** – As the children gather, we have our special collective worship table with a lit candle, a Bible and cross for the Holy Trinity. The children gather we play gathering music. We say our gathering prayer, or a prayer linked to one of the Christian values of the school and the Holy Trinity.
- o **Engaging** – we stimulate the children through story, hymns and singing, drama, power point presentations, pupil participation and visual aids
- o **Responding** –we have time for individual and group reflection. This may be through prayer or verbal contributions.
- o **Sending** – We summarise the worship with a meaningful short message about what we have been focussing on in our Collective Worship. We then conclude the worship through the Christian grace.

### **Timing and organisation**

At Naburn C.E. Primary School our collective worship is when our whole school gather together and our Key stages (including EYFS) gather on a Monday. The themes for collective worship are distributed at the beginning of each term. The person leading the worship each day is then responsible for planning the worship linked to the week's theme. Celebration and Praise Worship each week includes the celebration of pupils' personal achievements, both in and outside of school, reflecting the value of such achievements.

**The timing and organisation of our daily worship is as followed:**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Focus</b>
Monday	9.05am	Theme
Tuesday	2.50pm	Singing
Wednesday	2.50pm	Journey through the Bible/Open the Book
Thursday	2.50pm	Celebration/praise
Friday	2.50pm	KS

**Most acts of Collective Worship will be approximately 15- 20 minutes long.**

**Monitoring and evaluation**

- Governors are invited to monitor and evaluate the impact of worship.