Carleton Rode & Forncett St. Peter CEVA Primary Federation

Carleton Rode and Forncett C.E.V.A. Primary Schools' ethos is founded on the belief that we should love our neighbour as we love ourselves and show this by treating others as we would like to be treated.

Collective Worship Policy

Formally adopted by the Governing Board of:	**Carleton Rode & Forncett St. Peter CEVA Primary Federation**
On:	**May 2024**
Review due:	**May 2027**
Signed by Chair of Governors: **Ben Stodel & Danielle Broughton**	
Signed by Executive Head: Callum Richards	

Policy Statement
As Church Schools, worship is an affirmation and celebration of our Christian ethos where adults and children have the opportunity to learn, worship and grow in their understanding of God and of themselves. It is therefore the 'heartbeat' of everything that we do and an expression of our Federation's Christian vision and values.

We believe that we and our children are made in the image of God and that worship is a vital factor in this image becoming more real and meaningful. It should enable participants to develop an understanding of Jesus Christ and God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The Legal Requirements
We seek to comply with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Section 70 and Schedule 20) which requires that:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Acts of worship must be appropriate for the pupils in that they should take account of the pupils' age, aptitude and family backgrounds.
- The daily act of Collective Worship will normally take place on the school premises, but all schools are able to hold their Act of Collective Worship elsewhere (e.g. the local Parish Church) on special occasions.
- Responsibility for the arrangement of Collective Worship in a Church of England school rests with the Governing Board in consultation with the Executive Headteacher. Foundation Governors have a particular responsibility for ensuring that Collective Worship is inclusive, inspirational and invitational.

Aims and Purpose

Collective Worship in our federation aims to give each school the opportunity to:

- Engage in an act of community
- Express praise and thanksgiving to God
- Reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Christ through Biblical texts
- Affirm Christian values and attitudes
- Celebrate special times in the Christian calendar

- Experience and respond to Anglican traditions and practices
- Explore the big questions of life and respond to national events
- Foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness
- Be still and reflect
- Share each other's joys and challenges

Anglican Faith and Practice
In order to provide acts of Collective Worship that reflect the faith and practice of the Church of England:

We use the Bible as a sourcebook for inspiration and learning and enable children to become familiar with the Lord's Prayer, psalms and other verses of scripture. We also introduce them to a variety of well-known prayers – many of which express the central beliefs of Christians throughout the ages.

We use aspects of Anglican liturgy to create a framework for worship. We use Christian symbols as a focus for reflection and provide opportunities to discover the value of meditation and silence. We observe the cycle of the Anglican year including celebrations of the major Christian festivals.

As worship is a special part of our day, we provide a worship space which is attractive and well prepared with appropriate thought having been given to colour, space, seating, ambience and music.

We actively seek to develop church partnerships to enhance our provision for collective worship. This includes the local Anglican church and other Christian denominations. We view our schools as part of the global church and aim to provide opportunities for children to appreciate the diversity of Christianity.

Rights and Responsibilities
As established by the 1944 Act and reinforced through this policy, parents and carers have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Should such a situation arise, appropriate arrangements would be made in keeping with the requirements of the Act.

The organisation of Collective Worship
Collective acts of worship follow a half-termly rolling programme of Christian themes based on each school's chosen values. Staff supplement this scheme with their own or other published materials which uphold the theme and support the aims of the school. Allowances are made for marking festivals like Saints Days, Harvest, etc. or for covering other newsworthy events. The current theme is displayed in the hall on our Collective Worship board. It may have pictures for reflection and discussion, an explanation of the theme, some helpful thoughts, hymns and songs that will be used and a list of listening music for use during collective worship. The 'singing' collective worship provides an opportunity to look carefully at some of the songs we use and consider their meaning. These songs compliment the theme for the half-term and the collective worship for that day stems from this.

An Act of Worship led by the parish Priest-in-Charge is held at least termly in each school hall or via the internet if an in-person visits are not possible. Our churches are also used at other key times e.g. at Christmas, Easter and Harvest. The children lead and actively participate in collective worship wherever possible and are involved in the planning too.
At the beginning of every full governor and school council meeting, there is a 'quiet moment' in which governors and children have an opportunity for prayer or reflection before the proceedings begin.

Resources for Collective Worship
The budget for Collective Worship is distinct from the budget for Religious Education. There is a wide selection of assembly books and artefacts which we regularly update and improve. We have a collection of CDs and online music which are used to provide suitable music as children enter and leave the hall as well as to accompany singing. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to training.

SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools)
In VA schools, collective worship will be inspected on a regular basis through a Section 48 inspection. It is the responsibility of the governors to organise this in liaison with the Executive Headteacher. The diocese offers assistance and support with the arrangements.

Contribution to Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development
We recognise that although SMSC development should be fostered across the whole curriculum, acts of Collective Worship provide a multitude of opportunities in this area. For example, children will be encouraged to reflect on and celebrate the deeper meanings of life, consider their own behaviour and recognise the need for forgiveness, appreciate the contributions of others and respond to their needs, value their own culture and the cultures of others.

Monitoring and Evaluation
We monitor and evaluate the impact of our Collective Worship by maintaining records of the activity and surveying adults and children as to their views on its impact and expression of the school's Christian vision. Children are regularly asked to evaluate collective acts of worship and their responses are recorded in the collective worship evaluation book. Class teachers or teaching assistants also collect any responses and evidence to put in the folder that stem from collective worship in class collective worship time in order to build up evidence of the impact collective worship has on our children and to aid monitoring. In conjunction with Foundation Governors, children will also evaluate the impact of Collective Worship on themselves and the wider school community.

Inclusion
We are committed to equality of opportunity regardless of race, gender, cultural background, ability or any physical or sensory disability. We therefore aim to make Collective Worship accessible to all and accommodate ourselves to individual needs

when appropriate. As when teachers prepare lessons, worship leaders take account of different learning styles and aim to present materials using multi-sensory approaches.

Implementation of Policy
The Executive Headteacher is responsible for this policy which will be reviewed by the Governing Board every three years. Its implementation is the responsibility of all those planning and leading Collective Worship.

Review
This policy will be reviewed every three years.

Links to Other Policies:

- Religious Education Policy
- SMSC Policy
- Federation Vision and Values Statement