Wilton
CE Primary School

Worship Policy

Wilton CE Primary School's Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the school's aims and ethos. Our Christian core values of Love, Kindness, Coureage, Perseverance and Respect are at the heart of our school and underpin our teaching, learning and daily relationships, providing a firm foundation for all aspects of our children's development. Through engaging with and exploring the values as part of collective worship each week, we are ensuring they are embedded throughout our school life.

Our Biblical Underpinning reflects our schools inclusive nature, "We have many parts in one body and all these parts have different functions."

Our collective worship is rooted in inclusivity. While our worship is Christian in nature, it provides opportunities for those of all faiths – and those with none – to gather, engage and reflect as part of our community.

Spirituality is fluid, ever changing and deeply personal. By engaging in collective worship, we are guiding our pupils in this journey and providing the opportunities for key reflection:

Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship is a significant educational activity which underpins the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children and staff. It reflects and explores the school's distinctive character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of all learners.

Collective worship is planned to provide all members of the school community opportunities

to:

• Worship God in an inclusive and sensitive way. It should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith

• Learn from Biblical and Christian teaching.

• Develop a personal understanding of salvation and The Trinity - God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

• Develop and reflect on a common ethos and shared values

• Personally respond to worship in a way that impacts daily life

• Respond to Christian language and symbolism and experience stillness and quiet

• Experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness or quiet reflection

• Begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship in the Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide

• Celebrate and give thanks for achievements of those within the school and to take part in local, national and international occasions of significance, including festivals

Collective Worship Structure

Our Collective Worship structure remains as similar as possible throughout the week, including in class worships. We use the same shared slides each week to ensure that there is consistency.

Gather

We gather together and greet each other.

• Members of our collective worship team say our welcoming statement.

• We all come to play a part in this community.

• We are preparing to meet God.

Engage

• We engage with the big things and the little things in life.

• We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible.

• We are listening for God's message for us.

Respond

We respond to what we have heard and seen.

• We respond together as individuals.

• We are given the opportunity to worship God.

Send

• We are sent out to love and serve one another and to make a difference in the world

• We share our school prayer together

• We are all dismissed with God's blessing

• The candle is extinguished

• A thinking question is placed on the board for all to share

Call	**Response**	**Action**
Gather:		
The lord is Here	His Spirit is With us	Lighting of the candle
Send:		
Everything we've learned today, let us follow the Wilton Way	To help us through our day	
Go with love and kindness	Let God hear our voices	Blow out the candle

Our Worship Week

Monday	Whole School School Leaders	• To introduce the message, Bible quote or story of the week • To provide opportunities for shared thought and reflection • To provide opportunities for stillness and calm. • To provide opportunities for Christian worship and exploration of Christian themes, ideas and stories. • To foster connectedness and a sense of belonging
Tuesday	Whole School/Class Teachers	• To know that singing forms an act of Worship. • To share joy in the moment
Wednesday	Whole School Rev. Mark Wood	• To reinforce the message of the week • To know about local and international Christian festivals
Thursday	Key Stage/Class Chaplain Louise	• To build on the messages from the whole school worship • To give opportunities for discussion and debate • To provide opportunities for personal development at each child's individual level. • Understanding of how our values are lived and breathed at our school

Friday	Whole School – Celebration Worship School Leaders	• Bring the school community together • To celebrate achievement and instil pride • To end the week with positivity and joy

Church Services

As a whole school, we have the opportunity to worship at St Mary's and Nicholas Church several times throughout the year. Children across the school work closely with clergy to lead worship, read the Bible and to lead prayers. Individual classes also visit the church as part of their RE curriculum.

Prayer

Prayer is an important part of our worship. Prayers written by the children are used throughout our collective worship. We also use 'The Lord's Prayer' and regularly reflect on the special meanings behind this Christian family prayer. Children also have an opportunity to reflect and pray at any time through the use of our reflection areas in our classrooms.

Worship through Singing

Worship songs are planned termly and carefully chosen to reflect our values and are key in expressing personal spirituality. We believe that worship through music is a core element of our collective worship and provides an opportunity to praise God and to express a range of emotions such as joy and wonder. Our worship songs should contain words and style of music which supports this.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and handbook. 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 Head of School.

Monitoring the Impact of Collective Worship

The Collective Worship lead is responsible for measuring the impact of collective worship. This will be done regularly, most particularly through regular meetings with the worship Ambassadors. Impact is measured through the development of pupil wellbeing, motivation, self-efficacy and engagement in collective worship and the demonstration of our school values throughout everything we do.

Visitors

We warmly welcome visitors to lead our daily act of worship. Children look forward to regular worship which is led by clergy and 'The Bridge Project'. Members of our school community, including parents and ASEC members are welcome to attend collective worship too. Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Legal Status

The Act of Collective Worship is the responsibility of the Governing Body in consultation with the Headteacher. It will be carried out in accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act and with the Trust Deed of the school, in accordance with the principles and teachings of the Church of England; although in accordance with modern ecumenical good practice it may reflect and draw upon non-Anglican (Christian) traditions.