

Written by: S. Peel, Foundation Governors, Staff

Reviewed by: Head Teacher and Foundation Governors

Shared with staff: Jan 2009, Jan 2013, Jan 2015, Feb 2024

Seen by Governors on: 10.9.09. 27.11.12, 3.2.15, April 2024

Review date: autumn 2012, Autumn 2013, Autumn 2015, Autumn 2017, Autumn 25

Collective Worship Policy

Gargrave is a voluntary controlled Church of England primary school, and is one of the family of Church Schools in the Leeds Diocese. It was originally founded by the Church, but is now controlled by the local authority.

Instrument of Government states, *“Recognising the School's historic foundation, the Governors and Staff aim to preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level. The School aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice.”* The Staff, Governors and parents in consultation have identified a set of core values which exemplify and underpin the central Christian ethos of the school;

Peace Hope Love

We have the story of the Good Samaritan as our core vision as we know that this reflects us, our values and the needs of our community.

The school aims to promote a common ethos and develop a sense of community spirit through these shared values, with Collective Worship playing a vital and central role exemplifying and reinforcing these values for all pupils. One of our stated outcomes is that pupils have a sense of spirituality – understanding and ability to relate to others and society as a whole.

The School encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. We aim through the education we provide to develop and maximise the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils.

In line with this aim, the acts of high quality Collective Worship at Gargrave Primary School have been devised to offer pupils a quality learning experience which reflects the distinctive Christian foundation of the school and reiterates for them the School's integral Christian ethos.

In accordance with DfE circular 1/94 (p22), the Collective Worship provided by the school is “appropriate to the family backgrounds of the pupils and their ages and aptitudes”. The programme provided does not presuppose shared beliefs and does not seek uniform responses from pupils. It caters for a diversity of beliefs and points of view, allowing individuals to respond as individuals. The school equality scheme is a point of interest.

The aims of the school's Collective Worship Programme

The Collective Worship Policy adopted by Gargrave C E Primary School has as its underlying aims:

- Value collective worship as central to fostering a sense of community and expressing the schools' Christian vision. Values of Peace, Hope, Love and the story of the good Samaritan.
- Invitational: consistently invitational, no compulsion to ‘do anything’.
- Encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. The trinitarian nature of God.
- Grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- To enable pupils to appreciate that Christians worship on different ways, for example music, silence, story, prayer, refection, and other traditions of Anglican worship.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.
- To celebrate achievements, special occasions and special events in relation to individual pupils within school, to the school as a whole, or to the wider community.
- To acknowledge and respect difference and diversity.

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Implementation/ organisation Candle to be lit, Worship table to have a focus, This is led by the *head teacher* who is responsible for the policy, the programme and responding to formal and informal observations. We hold worship at the start of every day 9am-9.15am.

Monday	whole school	Head Teacher
Tuesday	whole school	Community led: Vicar/ members of the community
Wednesday	whole school	Assistant Head Teacher led
Thursday	Whole School	pupil led
Friday	Whole School Celebration	Head Teacher lead plus staff support

- Termly class worship, celebration of the work completed. Parents and pupils together.
- In church every year harvest, carol service, and end of year assembly and at the cenotaph.
- Year 6 lead worship. Termly awards assembly.

Each term there is a plan, including themes. Themes reflect the liturgical year and key school events. Several outside leaders of worship attend once a term.

Collective worship is planned termly and has space for evaluations.

Resources used include Open the Book, Twelve Baskets and resources on the shelf in the staff room.

This year we hope to raise the profile of prayer. We want our pupils to understand the nature and purpose of prayer. We shall focus on the meaning of the Lord's Prayer. We shall create a display of prayers and the opportunity for a prayer box. We shall evaluate and focus on prayer at the end of the day and grace. We are going to include these saying in worship as they link with words used at our Church. "peace be with you" ... "and also with you". "In the name of the Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit" to begin a service. A blessing "the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon us, and remain with us, now and forever more, Amen". "The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The Love of God, and The fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with Us All, Now and Forever more, Amen". We aim to develop pupils understanding of these prayers.

The school wishes to include understanding of Anglican traditions and practice such as the Eucharist in Collective Worship and when a vicar is in post this will be part of their role.

Right of Parental Withdrawal from the Collective Worship Programme

Parents have the right to request that their child be wholly or partly excused from attending collective worship at school. The supervision of any child withdrawn from Collective Worship remains the responsibility of the school.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. *Governors* will observe, gain pupil voice and give feedback to the board of governors.

In Conclusion At Gargrave C of E Primary School collective worship is highly valued and every effort is made to ensure that all children and staff take an active part in a high quality daily act of collective worship. Worship may contain many elements but at Gargrave Primary School we seek to specifically ensure that the act of collective worship is a learning experience as well as a spiritual encounter.