

Psalm 100

A psalm. For giving grateful praise.

Shout *for* joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;
come *before* him with joyful songs.

Know *that* the LORD is God.

It is *he who made* us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep *of* his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is *good* and his love endures *forever*;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Our Collective Worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity *of* our school, *reaffirms* our values and celebrates the contribution *that each* child makes to our community. Worship reflects the variety *of* traditions found in the Church *of* England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act *of* worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all *staff* and members *of* the governing body. Our school worship is central to the life *of* the school and contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development *of* our pupils, *as* appropriate to their ages and aptitudes.

At Wath C of E Primary school we are committed to offering high quality collective worship. We recognise and value collective worship *as* central to fostering *a* sense *of* community, sharing and belonging, promoting and reinforcing *a* common ethos and *shared* values and expressing our school's Christian vision.

To ensure an education *that* enables all pupils to flourish and to 'live life in all its fullness' John 10:10.

Collective Worship is *offered as* part *of* a wider opportunity *for* pupils and adults to encounter *faith* by engaging in conversations about God, both *as* individuals and together. We believe *that* this can be *achieved* by encouraging pupils to be creative, questioning and imaginative (within *a* Christian *framework*) and also recognising the importance *of* experience, personal values and respect *for* the beliefs *of* others. We want pupils to leave school with *a* rich experience and understanding *of* Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an opportunity to explore the Christian *faith* (and *a* relationship with *God*) in *a* way *that* enhances their lives both educationally and spiritually.

Collective worship gives pupils and school *staff* the opportunity to:

- Engage in an act *of* community.

- Develop *a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values*.
- Express praise *and* thanksgiving to God.
- Be still *and have* time to consider, reflect *upon and* respond to aspects of *human experience*.
- Explore *the* big questions of life *and* respond to national *events*.
- Foster respect *and deepen* spiritual awareness.
- Reflect *on the* character of God *and on the* teachings of Christ.
- *Affirm* Christian values *and* attitudes.
- Share *each other's joys and* challenges.
- Celebrate special times in *the* Christian calendar.

Aims and objectives:

Collective Worship:

- Allows children to come together *as a community* to explore *and* reflect *on the* school's Christian vision which *has its foundations* in our *shared* values of love, hope, joy, peace *and forgiveness*.
- Enables children *and* adults to appreciate *that* Christians worship *and demonstrate* their *faith* in *different ways*, for example using music, silence, *story*, prayer, reflection, including *the* varied liturgical *and* other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals *and*, where appropriate, *the* Eucharist.
- *Offers the* opportunity *and* creates *an* atmosphere for pupils *and* adults, *if they* wish, to express praise *and thanks* to God *and deepen and* widen their experience *through* prayer, stillness, worship *and* reflection *and* allow spiritual growth.
- Creates *an* atmosphere where *those who* wish to worship *can do* so.
- Allows children to develop *an* enquiring mind, reflect *on* their *own* beliefs *and* express *and* explore their *own* views *openly and honestly*, whilst also developing *a* respect *for and an understanding of the* personal values *and* beliefs of others.
- Helps pupils *and* adults to appreciate *the relevance of faith* in *today's* world *by encountering and* exploring *the* teachings of Jesus *and the* Bible *and* developing *understanding of the* character of God *and the* Christian belief in *the* trinity.
- Enables pupils *and* adults to ask big questions of *meaning and* purpose (*who we are and why we do what we do*), fostering *an awareness of the* world around them *and a sense of* their place within it.
- Provides *staff and* pupils with *the* opportunity to gather together *and* support *one another as a community* in times of joy *and* celebration but also in times of challenge, fostering *a sense of* fellowship *and* cohesion *and affirming* our Christian values within *the* school *community*.

- Allows opportunities *for the school community* to meet to celebrate *and* mark certain *seasons* in the Church calendar, *such as Lent and Advent*. Other important *events* in the school year, *such as the start and end of the academic year* will also be marked by acts of Collective Worship. Pupils *and* adults will *encounter the practice of* regular prayer *and* worship as a normal part *of the life of the school*. These activities will help provide a *rhythm and stillness* as a pattern *of community life*.

Structure and Organisation of Collective Worship:

Collective Worship takes *the form of* a welcome *or* call to worship followed *by* a *story* (this may be a Bible *story*) or a *focused* theme *that the group* are *encouraged and* guided to reflect *on through* discussion, reflection, prayer or music. Links are made *from the story* or theme with our Christian values *and* vision. It will be something *that* pupils *and* adults *may want* to share *and* discuss with others in school, in *the community and* at home. Weekly assemblies are also planned *and* delivered which *focus on* our school behaviours with opportunities to reflect *on and* make links with our Christian values *and* vision.

School worship:

Takes place daily (*in Key Stages* or in class). To provide children with variety in their experience *of* worship, acts *of* worship *may* take *the form of* a whole school act *of* worship *for* all pupils or separate acts *of* worship *for* children in *different* age groups or school groups.

It is all inclusive - it is *for* all pupils, is open to *the Governing Body and* parents *can* be invited.

Teaching *staff* are expected to *attend and* all other *staff* are welcome.

Takes place either in *the* school hall or in classroom (*for* Class Worship)

Is planned, with specific themes, at a level in *accordance* with *the differing* age groups *and understanding of the* pupils *attending the* act *of* worship.

Includes acts *of* praise *and* worship in songs, hymns, readings, prayers *and* poems.

Allows members *of the school community* to have opportunities to reflect, responding individually or collectively to a *statement of* belief, *story* or *focused* theme.

Celebrates *the* achievements *and* learning *of* all pupils.

There are also opportunities *for* pupils to *engage by* participating in, preparing *for and* evaluating Collective Worship. This *may* be *through saying* prayers, leading call *and* response, helping in practical *ways*, acting out stories or sharing creative pieces *from* Worship Club.

Content of Collective Worship:

The content of our worship is organised to:

Observe the cycle of the Church's Year - Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Saints' Days.

Use *the Bible* as a source of knowledge *and* inspiration *for* themes *and* stories.

Allow opportunities to speak personal prayers aloud.

Sing *a wide variety of hymns and songs.*

Experience Christian symbols in worship *and* reflecting *on* their *meaning* e.g. cross, bread *and* wine *and* candles.

Use simple call *and* responses

Celebrate Eucharist (as appropriate)

A display at *the front of the hall* provides *a focal point for* Collective Worship along with *a* candle which is lit at *the beginning of* Collective Worship with *a* simple call *and* response - "God is here. God is with us!" Children are invited to lead *the* call *and* response.

A class prayer is said *each day* accompanied *by the* lighting *of a* candle either at *the beginning* or *end of the day and* / or at lunch time.

Staff are also *encouraged* to use prayer throughout *the day* to respond to *and* reflect *on* class experiences *and* learning.

Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires *that* 'all pupils in *attendance* at *a* maintained school shall *on each day* take part in *an act of* Collective Worship'. We seek to do our best to keep *the* spirit *of* this legislation seeking to provide as *many* high-quality acts *of* worship as is practically possible.

The responsibility *for arranging* school worship in our school rests with *the* Headteacher *and* RE / Worship Coordinator *who, after* consultation with *the governing body,* will *carry out* *the* responsibility *for* co-ordinating Collective Worship in *the* school.

All acts *of* worship are in *accordance* with *the* guidance issued in circular 1/94 which states *that* worship should be *of a* 'wholly or mainly *of a* broadly Christian character' *and not* distinctive *of any* particular Christian denomination.

The Headteacher *and* governors may apply *for a* determination *from* SACRE if there are *a* large number *of* pupils in *the* school *from a* particular *non-Christian* faith background. *The* school recognises *that* there is *a* difference *between* Acts *of* Collective Worship *and* *the* assembly *of* students. *On* some occasions, assembly may proceed or follow *and* Act *of* Collective Worship. *When* this happens *the* transition *from* Assembly to worship will be marked in some suitable way e.g. *the* lighting *of a* candle or reflecting *on an* image, *moment of* silences *and* reflection etc

- Collective worship provides the opportunity to *engage* whilst allowing the *freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage* with integrity.
- It allows children to reflect *on* values that are *of a* broadly *Anglican* Christian tradition, whilst embracing the validity *and* importance *of* other Christian denominations, religions *and* belief systems.
- Pupils *and* adults should always only be invited to pray *if* they wish to do so *and* should be invited to pray in their *own* way. Prayer should always be accompanied by the option to reflect.
- It aims to *encourage* pupils to think searchingly about their faith, beliefs *and/or* philosophical *convictions*.

Rights of Withdrawal

At Wath C of E Primary School we seek to be *an* inclusive community *however* we respect the right *of* parents to withdraw their children *for* Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Headteacher / Worship Coordinator followed by written confirmation *of* withdrawal.

The school *has a* system *of* suitable supervision *for students* withdrawn *from* Acts *of* Collective Worship. However, *no* additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers *have* the right *of* withdrawal *from* the Act *of* Collective Worship. This right *of* withdrawal does *not extend* to assemblies.

Planning, Recording and Evaluation

Collective worship will be treated like any other part *of* the curriculum *when* it comes to matters *of* planning, delivery, resourcing *and* evaluation.

We seek to *encourage* pupils to voice their views *on* Collective Worship *and* to be *a* part *of* the evaluation process. Members *of* the Worship Club team will give their views to the Collective Worship Co-ordinator *concerning* acts *of* worship. The RE / Worship Coordinator *and* RE Governor meet *on a* termly basis to discuss the evaluations made by the worship team.

This is *then fed* back to the senior leadership team *and* their adapted plans are presented to *governors*.

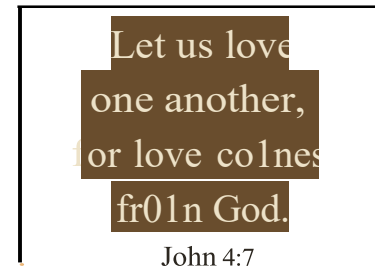
Date *of next* review: September 2025

Date..... Signed..... [Chair *of* Governors]

Our Christian Values:

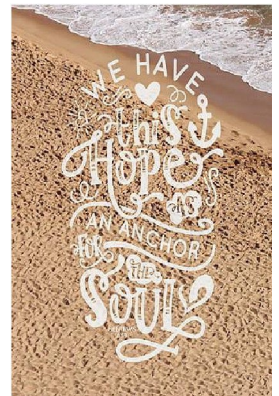
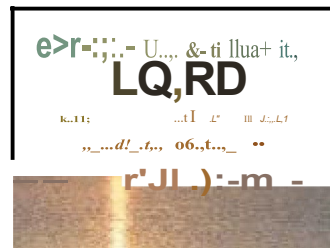
LOVE: 1 John 4:7

Let us love *one another*, for love comes *from* God.



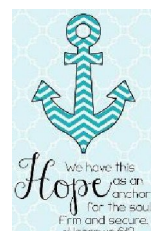
JOY: Psalm 118:24

This is *the day that the Lord has made*,
let us rejoice *and* be glad in it.



HOPE: Romans 15:13

May *the* God of hope fill *you* with
peace *and* joy.



"Jesus gives us hope because He keeps us company, has a vision and knows the way we should go."

- [Max Lucado](#)

PEACE: John 14: 27



Jesus said: "My peace I give to *you*".

FORGIVENESS: Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another,
forgiving *each* other, just as in Christ, God forgave *you*

