



Hythe Primary School Collective Worship Policy

The aim of the collective worship policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- reflect on values that are of a broadly Christian nature and on their own beliefs
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- consider spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues
- provide opportunities for children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- have time to quietly reflect on what they have learned
- explore feelings of awe, wonder, mystery, love and joy
- to celebrate achievements of others within our school community
- to explore and share common and different beliefs, showing appreciation and respect to each other within their community and beyond

Procedures and content

The leading of collective worship is shared between staff on a rota basis. Visiting speakers are invited to lead worship too. Songs and hymns are also practised regularly.

We gather every day to celebrate being together in the school community, to learn about and reflect on the principles of Christianity. This can be as a class, phase, key stage or whole school. From our daily act of worship we reflect, individually and as a group, on the mystery and wonder of the known and unknown world in which we live. Collective worship indicates a group of people among whom a whole range of beliefs, both religious and non-religious, can be found.

Over the term the worship is of a broadly Christian character, although we draw upon a wealth of other religions to help us develop personally, morally, socially and spiritually.

Children explore a theme each week. We use stories, poetry, legends and fables, world events and real-life stories to help us to reflect on the meanings and morals of life. We may also use music, art and photographs to illustrate difficult concepts in ways in which words cannot. Themes are often linked to one of the fundamental British Values and the school Golden Rules. A few minutes will be given for all to consider silently the shared message that day or a prayer will be shared which children will be given the choice to join in with. The theme of the week is then used to influence the subject for the 'Class Vote' celebration certificate at the end of the week.

All pupils will have equal opportunities to access Collective Worship, regardless of their race, gender cultural background, ability, or of any physical or sensory disability. Children are supported as necessary to access Collective Worship opportunities.

Timetable **YrR KS1**

Monday: 10.20*: Whole school: Led by Headteacher.

Tuesday: Theme of the week – in classes

Wednesday: Birthday assembly, singing (seasonal).

Thursday: British values – in classes

Friday: 10:20: Whole school celebration led by Headteacher (14.30 for the last assembly of each half term).

KS2

Monday: 10.20*: Whole school led by Headteacher.

Tuesday: 10.20 Key stage singing led by DHT (music lead)

Wednesday: 10.20 Key Stage led by class teacher (weekly theme/British values)

Thursday: Class reflection – linked to British Values

Friday: 10:20: Whole school celebration led by Headteacher (14.30 for the last assembly of each half term).

* On the first Monday of each month, the school is visited by a volunteer group from St John's Church, led by the Children and Families Ministry Coordinator, who deliver an 'Open the Book' assembly to the whole school.

Withdrawal

When parents do not wish their children to participate in collective worship they are asked to arrange a meeting with the Headteacher to discuss the matter. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship but the school is still responsible for those pupils.

Teachers are required to take and attend assemblies as part of their conditions of service. However, they are not obliged to attend or participate in acts of worship. Any teacher wishing to withdraw from collective worship must discuss the matter with the Headteacher.

Date Agreed by Governing Body:

To Be Reviewed: March 2027

Annually

Last Reviewed: March 2026