



Heritage Coast Federation

Collective Worship Policy



Written/Reviewed by	Approved by	Date of Approval	Version Approved	Next Review Date
Helen Thompson / Alison Dykes	Governors	8/7/2025		July 2027

Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our schools, reaffirms our vision and associated values of '*hope, respect, community and trust*' and celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our 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 governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Therefore Collective Worship in our Heritage Coast Federation is planned:

- to be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school.
- will regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the schools core Christian values.
- will have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity.
- will help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- will challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection Stillness.
- will contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to."
- will be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Collective worship should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship and this provision. The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England. This Foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England / Methodist ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate pupils from the religious life of the school

Planning Collective Worship

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by the playing of our welcome music, welcome words and the lighting of a candle.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'engaging' 'responding' 'sending'. There should also be space for evaluation.

The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through the Pupil Parliament and Worship Team. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship.

There are a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning. These include but are not limited to: Imaginor Roots and Fruits, Oscar out of the Box, Jack in the Box and Journey through the Bible.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Alison Dykes

A Federation governor has a role of monitoring Collective Worship.

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Daily Collective Worship is to be provided for every pupil. This worship may take place in various groupings such as the whole school, separate Key Stage groups, year groups or classes, but not in faith groups. Worship may take place at any time in the school day.

The agreed pattern of weekly worship, locations, composition is as follows:-

Monday	Values / World Events Worship
Tuesday	Roots and Fruits
Wednesday	Journey through the Bible / Open the Book
Thursday	Singing Worship
Friday	Celebration Worship

- The majority of time, Collective Worship will be led by staff at the school on a rota basis and local Clergy will lead the Journey through the Bible Worship sessions
- Collective worship will be approximately 20-30 minutes.
- Parents, family and governors are invited to some Celebration Worships and special services such as Christingle, Harvest etc.

Visitors

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.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop.

Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York (SIAMS).