



Ivegill  
C • E S C H O O L

# IVEGILL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Collective Worship Policy

This policy was established, and approved for implementation by the full Governing Body of Ivegill CE Primary School

Signed by the Chair of Governors: <i>[Signature]</i>
Dated: 25/09/2024
The name of our Collective Worship Governor is:
This policy is to be next reviewed in:

## **Ivegill CE Primary School's Vision Statement**

Our most basic purpose is to encourage and help children to realise and achieve their full potential.

*'Let your light shine'*  
Matthew 5:16

Our school has chosen endurance, trust and community as core Christian values of all we do.

Together they have become #etc

### **Endurance**

Endurance is learning to keep going when something becomes hard. It's about not giving up on yourself or those around you. It's about believing in yourself, your gifts and talents. It's not being frightened to dream and to hang onto that dream. It's about helping each other as that's how we want to be treated.

### **Trust**

Trust lies at the heart of all healthy relationships. By being reliable, responsible and honest with ourselves and others we learn to trust. It's when you keep your promises and have the courage to speak out. In this way we learn how to look after each other.

### **Community**

We try hard to make our school inclusive. It is a safe space, a place where you're trusted, feel supported and are believed in. Each person has a role to play within our school community. We learn to say sorry, forgive each other and make a fresh start. It's where you can give your ideas and thoughts to make it a better place.

Collective worship is central to the life of Ivegill CE Primary school. It is part of the outworking of the school's Christian vision and is a time for the whole school community to gather, pause and reflect their own spirituality, values and place in the world and drawing on the opportunities described by the DfE (circular 1/94).

*'...there is a strong educational case for experience of worship being part of school life, since its omission lessens the possibility of understanding traditions to which worship is essential;'*

*Church of England Vision for Education 2016*

## Aims

### **Inclusive, Invitational, Inspirational**

The aims of collective worship in **this school** are:

- Collective worship will help educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills, hope and aspiration, dignity and respect as well as developing community and understanding of living well together.
- It aims to be inclusive, invitational and inspirational
- It is central to the life of the school
- It supports pupils and adults in their spiritual growth
- Supports pupils in their understanding of the Trinitarian nature of God in Christian belief
- Introduces pupils to a variety of forms of Christian worship that reflect the rich diversity of experience in Anglican (and other Christian traditions) locally and globally.
- Enables pupils to use the use of silence or stilling, reflection and prayer
- Provides opportunities to explore the 'Big Questions' of life and to recognise the responses that have been made to these by people of faith
- Affirms the uniqueness and contribution of every individual in the sight of God

## Legal Framework

Since 1944 collective worship has been a legal requirement in maintained schools. The law requires that all registered school age pupils take part in an act of worship each day. In a church school these acts must be distinctively Christian in nature. By inviting the school community to worship, we need to consider the varied backgrounds that the school community come from and therefore collective worship is invitational rather than confessional in nature.

At this school collective worship is conducted in accordance with the Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and is consistent with the beliefs of the Church of England.

## Planning, Recording and Evaluation

The content and planning of collective worship should be varied. The themes for each week/half term/term are shared with staff and visiting clergy at the beginning of each term and include ideas for stories from the Bible that support this. However, the pattern is flexible and on occasions, will focus on a response to local or national events.

The school visits the local church for worship, particularly at major festivals in the Christian calendar Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Easter.

We also use outdoor areas including our on-going development of the spiritual garden.

### Resources

The school uses a variety of resources recommended by Carlisle Diocese that are available to use when planning collective worship. Amongst others, we utilise materials from Carlisle Diocese, The Barnabas Trust, SPCK, Messy Church, Christian Aid and other story/parable-based explorations. including resources from the world-wide church.

[A Fresh Approach to Collective worship - Diocese of Canterbury \(canterburydiocese.org\)](http://canterburydiocese.org)

### Responsibilities

**Headteacher (CW lead)** – has the delegated responsibility for day to day acts of collective worship:

Identifying and planning themes

Support where required for those leading worship

Identifying training needs

Monitoring and evaluation of collective worship

**Foundation Governors** – monitor and evaluate the impact of collective worship in our school through governor observations and ensure collective worship is consistent with the trust deed. The governor with collective worship responsibility will report annually to the full governing board and propose any necessary amendments to the School Development Plan, including any need for staff development or training. *See Appendix 4.*

**Leaders of collective worship** – plan and deliver acts of worship.

### Visitors

We encourage guest leaders of collective worship throughout the year. Some of these may be linked to a specific project or organisation. Please see additional diocesan guidance for religious or faith visitors taking part in collective worship.

<https://www.carlisediocese.org.uk/documents/guidance-staff-when-faith-representatives-visit-ce-school/>

<https://www.carlisediocese.org.uk/documents/guidance-faith-representatives-visiting-schools/>

### **Ivegill Worship Committee**

Our Worship Committee are members of from across school who have been appointed following an application for the role. Their role is to advise about and lead class collective worships, monitor collective worship and help promote reflection and collective worship around the school. They also help to set up the hall for Collective Worship, including the lighting of a candle and including other pupils with the 'Welcoming Words' and 'Sending out'. The reps meet with Mrs Hale (RE lead) and Mr Trickett to give feedback and consider how the experience of Collective Worship can be improved for all.

### **Review**

There will be a review every three years of this policy. Its effectiveness will be monitored by the collective worship leader, together with a senior leaders and governors. This will include discussions with other members of staff, observation of teaching and monitoring of children's work. Evaluation of teaching plans will form part of any review. The outcomes will influence the school development plan.

### **Withdrawal**

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from collective worship. Should any parent make such a request, appropriate arrangements will be made for the supervision of the children following consultation. Parents who have any concerns about the provision and practice of collective worship are encouraged to contact the headteacher to discuss this. The headteacher will report to the governors the numbers (but not the names) of any children who are withdrawn and the arrangements that have been made for their supervision.

## Appendix 4

### Example questions to ask during monitoring activity for Collective Worship

This is intended to help governors and others to monitor or evaluate the effectiveness of acts of collective worship. The prime concern is to ensure that the governors' policy on collective worship is being delivered. Monitoring the effectiveness of the worship leader is the headteacher's responsibility and governors should guard against judging or commenting on this aspect. Governors who are present in worship should participate in the worship fully.

Question	Comments	Action required
<p>Are the children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaged, interested and responding well</li> <li>• Actively involved - they took part through drama, roleplaying, readings etc</li> <li>• Able to take a lead – they made choices that affected the worship</li> <li>• Enjoying worship</li> <li>• Moved/made to think</li> </ul>		
<p>Does the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vary in pace, format and emotional tone – were there lively and quiet times</li> <li>• Appeal to the senses</li> <li>• Allow for a variety of learning styles</li> <li>• Allow for a range of responses</li> <li>• Include effective use of eye contact, variation in tone and pitch, body language and gesture</li> <li>• Clearly related to children's previous learning and experiences</li> </ul>		

<p>Is the content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant to the pupils age interests and ability</li> <li>• Related to the school curriculum</li> <li>• Linked to the distinctive Christian Values</li> <li>• Reflective of Christian traditions and practice</li> <li>• Inclusive of those of all faiths and none</li> <li>• Well resourced</li> </ul>		
<p>Did the leader succeed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an appropriate emotional environment – secure, warm, lively, amusing, challenging or reflective</li> <li>• Promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development</li> <li>• Provide appropriate opportunities for meaningful reflection, not only, but including silence</li> </ul>		