

St. Bartholomew's Church of England Academy



(Romans 12:4-5)

Collective Worship Policy

Adopted by the Leadership team

September 2024

Approved by full Governing Body

February 2025

Signed by Chair of Governors

L Nash

To be reviewed

September 2026



At St Bartholomew's we aim to help our pupils, parents and carers and all members of the school community to believe, belong and become. We want our school community to flourish and to nurture a sense of understanding and compassion for all and build courage and strength to live by our Christian cultures

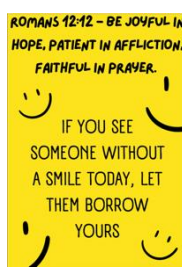
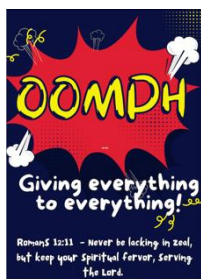
Vision

The Schools Christian Vision is linked to Romans Chapter 12 verses 4 and 5 which says "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." This links with the MAT vision because they are encouraging everyone to work together to live life in all it's fullness.



Romans 12:4-5

Christian Cultures



Collective Worship at St. Bartholomew's

In accordance with law for all schools and academies there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils, other than those in a nursery class. Our acts of collective worship are broadly Christian most of the time, therefore reflecting the tradition of the Church of England and the church's year. Collective Worship must also be appropriate to the age of our children and family backgrounds. We do this together as a whole and in class and the Vicar from St. Bartholomew's C of E Church also leads some worship. St. Bartholomew's C of E Academy views Collective Worship as an essential part of development for all member of our school community's spirituality. We strive to ensure that our acts of worship are invitational, inspirational, and inclusive for all. When children have worship in their classrooms Picture News is used. Picture News links to current events and British Values whilst having a Christian ethos underpinning it.



Whole school worship follows the following format:

Day	Worship	Led by
Monday	Christian Cultures/Worldview	Headteacher
Tuesday	Song Worship	Music Lead
Wednesday	Christian Cultures/Worldview/British Values	Vicar from St. Bartholomew's C of E Church / SLT
Thursday	Spirituality Worship/Class Worship	Deputy Headteacher
Friday	Celebration Worship	Headteacher

Aims of Collective Worship

At St. Bartholomew's C of E Academy, we believe that worship supports and strengthens our Christian Vision of 'Believe, Belong, Become'. We see Collective Worship as a special time in the school day where we can develop the whole child which is reflected in our worship. It provides all members of the community the space to reflect and express their reflections.

Through our Collective Worship we aim to provide the community an environment to:

- Become increasingly aware of themselves as individuals and as members of groups, fostering a sense of personal and collective worship, bringing the whole school community together.
- Create an atmosphere of occasion and reverence where those who wish to worship feel supported and others are brought into a meaningful encounter with something beyond themselves.
- Encourage a reflective approach to life.
- Link how our Christian Vision and cultures to the Bible teachings and help children and staff flourish on their own spiritual journey.
- Foster deepening understanding of theological concepts and the power symbolism and metaphor e.g. Trinity, Light
- To foster feelings of gratitude and courageous advocacy.
- To develop their awareness and understanding of Spirituality and how they are shaped, uniquely, by the 'wow, ows and nows of life.'
- Explore the language which people use to express their feelings and beliefs and grow in understanding of these.
- Respond freely to religious and/or spiritual stimuli.
- Acknowledge diversity whether it be religious or not.
- Become aware of opportunities and rights they have to take up causes they are passionate about.
- Show interest and concern for members of the school community and daily happenings in school life, the local community and wider world.
- Celebrate special occasions together.

Planning & Organisation

Collective Worship is led by senior leaders, staff, clergy and children. Whole school worship takes place in our hall which has many other functions during the school day. Therefore, to create a sacred space and make it a special time we have given attention to:

- A worship table which has a cloth to matched to the colours of the liturgical year.
- Having a visual focus on the worship table; Bible, cross, candle.
- Carefully chosen music as we enter and leave the hall.
- Expecting that all the school community enters the hall in an intentionally reflective manner.

Collective Worship over the year are linked to our Christian vision and culture, events in not only the church calendar but events to national events and worldviews and responding to the school community. The half termly overviews are produced by the subject leader so that staff and clergy know the focus for each Collective Worship.

Leaders of Collective Worship use the four Church of England parts of the liturgy when leading worship; Gathering Together – Greeting, Learning Together – Engaging; Responding and Reflecting Together – Responding and Leaving Together – Sending Out. The Greeting is the reminder about meeting in the name of God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and the reason we are in Collective Worship. Engaging is the learning together and is often based on a theme, or stories and events from the Bible. Responding we pause to think, feel and imagine. There is a focus on what has been learnt and the difference it will make to the school community as individuals. There is a response through song and prayer. Sending out it where the leader encourages the school community to take something from the worship back into their classrooms or homes. The closing words and actions reminds children and adults to make a difference to their lives.

Diversity

All staff members are expected to participate in and lead worship whether in class or whole school. We understand that some children who attend St. Bartholomew's C of E Academy come from a different religious background. We respect the traditions of other faiths and those who lead worship do so in such a way as to allow all children to take part with integrity. The rights of parents to withdraw their children from collective worship is enshrined in the 1988 Education Reform Act. Any parent who wishes this may consult the Headteacher.

Monitoring & Reviewing

Monitoring Collective Worship is carried out by SLT and the Governors. Monitoring visits ensure that the school community is receiving quality Collective Worship opportunities to flourish and become the best version of themselves, carrying out our Christian Cultures both within and outside of our school. Each class will contribute to a Collective Worship floor book where collective worship is recorded. The recording focuses on children's reflections and can include statements of reflection, prayer and links to everyday life.