

The Kite Primary Federation Collective Worship Policy



Based on Guidance from the
Diocesan Board of Education

July 2021

OUR FEDERATION VISION

Together we will flourish and thrive,
building on our Christian and local community,
for the good of all.

Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength.
They will soar high on wings like eagles.

Isaiah 40v.31



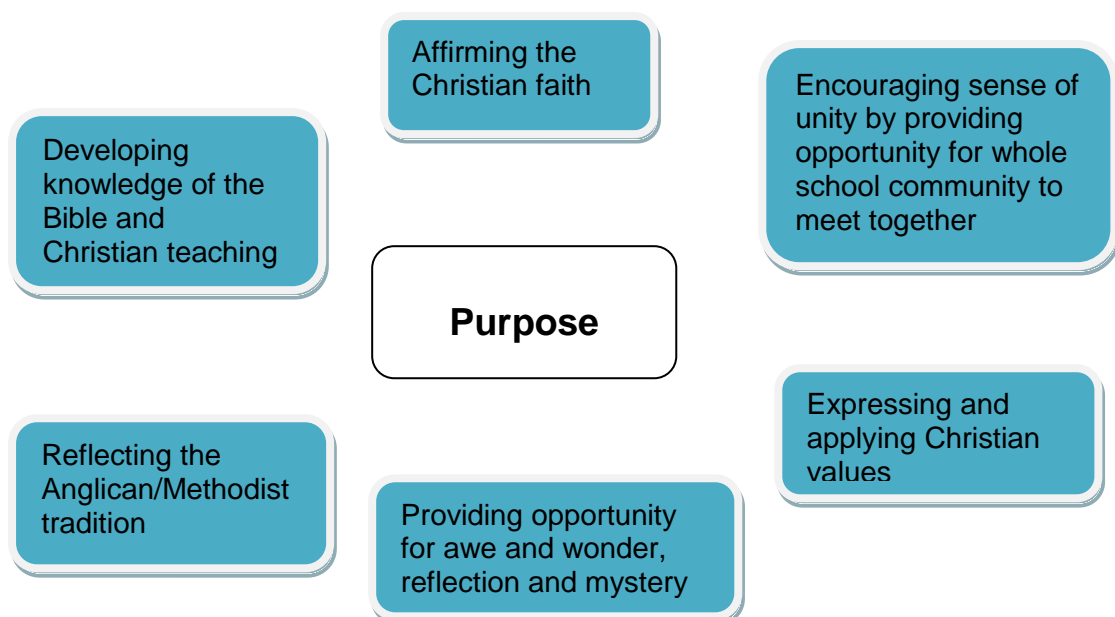
Our Federation Values are reflected within this policy as the opportunities discussed in here give children *hope* for chances to come, encourage *respect* for all regardless of race, ability, religion and circumstances, promote *generosity* of spirit and foster a *love* of learning and of their communities whilst understanding the importance of *honesty* and *forgiveness* in allowing us to live our lives within a Christian ethos.

Our Collective Worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our schools, reaffirms the Federation values that we hold important and celebrates the central role that each child has to play in our communities. The daily Christian act of worship makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

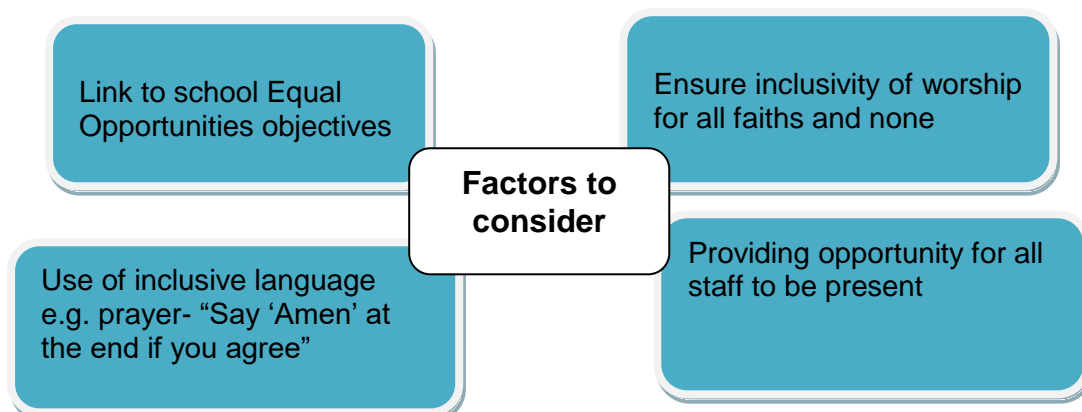
1 Aims and Purpose

1.1 Through our Acts of Collective Worship we aim to:

- Give children and adults alike the opportunity to reflect on the Christian Faith through central teachings of the bible, Christian Festivals, contemplation and prayer
- Provide an opportunity to reflect upon God and give him honour.
- To teach children how to worship by considering the importance and variety of prayer and reflection.
- Develop a self- respect for own beliefs and opinions and respect of each other's beliefs and opinions.
- Encourage a sense of unity and personal identity thereby developing the concept of individual self-worth and specialness.
- Realise our commitment and care for each other, staff, pupils and the broader community alike.
- To promote a common ethos with shared values (Hope, Respect, Generosity, Love, Honesty and Forgiveness) and reinforce positive attitudes.
- Think about the needs of others
- Encourage understanding and acceptance of other religions, beliefs, values, culture and traditions.
- Share each other's joys and challenges



- 2.1 We distinguish the difference between Collective Worship and Assembly. An assembly is considered as meeting together for a common purpose. We consider Collective Worship as uniting for the purpose of worship.
- 2.2 The Kite Primary Federation teach the children to recognise worship to be a special occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school participating together.
- 2.3 The 1988 Education Reform Act, states that collective worship should be “wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character”. The Kite Primary Federation bases Collective Worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. The manner in which we conduct these teachings is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the schools.
- 2.4 We will also hold at times Collective Worship which reflects other religious traditions that are represented in our Federation and the across the wider community.
- 2.5 Collective Worship allows for equal opportunities, taking into consideration the following factors:



3 Planning and Organisation of Collective Worship

- 3.1 Within the Kite Federation teachers and pupils are encouraged to take an active role leading worship.
- 3.2 Collective Worship is usually held at the beginning of the school day and once a week there is an assembly to enable a celebration of achievements.
- 3.3 Both schools have a close link with their village church. Special services such as Easter, Harvest, Christingle are held at the church which parents and Governors are invited to and represented. The church warden or vicar will officiate at special services and at regular worship in school.
Our Collective Worship link Governor is Elizabeth Jones.

- 3.4 The themes which our Collective Worship are formed around are taken from the traditions of the Christian calendar and our shared Federation values. We reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Collective Worship themes have been planned in a yearly cycle by the Federation RE coordinator and staff. These are kept in a file readily accessible to all. These themes are reviewed to ensure relevance to all children.
- 3.5 The children are encouraged to enter and depart Collective Worship in a quiet and respectful manner. They enter in “family” groups. The “family” consists of one child from each year group- the older children ‘buddying’ up with younger children. Each group has a ‘Values mentor’ who helps to lead and encourage group discussion and then feedback their thoughts to the others in school. Children sit in a horse shoe shape in their family groups around the leader of the Collective Worship. The ‘Collective Worship’ board at the front of the hall is used as a focus for the children. There is also a prayer table which has a cross, prayer box and candles on it. Music is used to enhance worship. An interactive white board also gives wide opportunities for visual images, clips and sound. The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.
- 3.6 The children are encouraged to think deeply about their Collective worship and share their reflections during the Collective Worship.
- 3.7 Alternative arrangements are made for children with additional needs. This may include alternative seating or support for those who may find large group experiences difficult.

4 Right of withdrawal

- 4.1 We encourage all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending *religious* worship. The school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the time Collective Worship is being held. No reason or explanation needs to be given for these requests. This is in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2 The Executive head teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

5 Monitoring and Review

- 5.1 The Federation Governors have responsibility for Religious Education and Collective Worship. They will monitor the policy and practices surrounding Collective Worship and report back to the C & P Committee.

6 Other Opportunities for Worship

Children have reflection areas in their classrooms where the children are encouraged to reflect on a theme and take time to worship should they wish to. We always ensure that in the seasons on Advent and Lent, children are given the opportunity for 'deep reflection' through creative ideas. These have included: Easter and Christmas Journeys, visiting other local churches and having the opportunity to take part in Collective Worship with other children from local schools.

At Norwell C of E Primary new links have been created with The Potting Shed – a new church locally that aims to create an innovative approach to rural church. Weekly collective worships have developed over the last two years (these are now remote using Zoom) and together with Dean Hole C of E School (Caunton) our nearest small local school, we come together to worship.

<https://www.thepottingshedchurch.org/>

Children also have weekly Collective Worship sessions using Picture News. This resource allows opportunities for children to learn about our world, linking with our school values, develop independence, resilience, respect. Teaching the news not only provides great content and stimulus and grips children's attention and promotes discussion, it is also something that the children can impact. It is current, happening now and so their voice is given meaning and purpose.

Date of policy review: July 2021

Date of review: July 2023