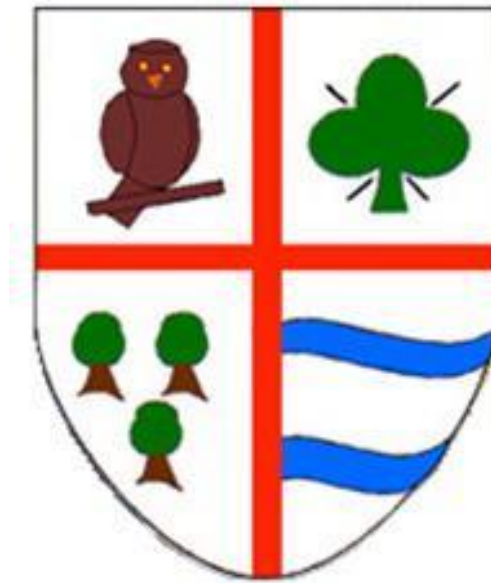


# Collective Worship Policy

Meanwood CE Primary School



Adopted by the governing body on: September 2025

To be reviewed on: September 2026

Signed on behalf of the governing body: Verity Stewart

## **Forward**

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy has due regard to the following ethos:

At Meanwood C of E Primary School we will continuously strive to ensure that everyone in our school is treated with respect and dignity. Each person in our school will be given fair and equal opportunities to develop their full potential with positive regard to gender, ethnicity, cultural and religious background, faith, sexuality or disability. The school will provide an inclusive curriculum, which will meet the needs of all its pupils including those with disabilities, special educational needs, from all cultural backgrounds and faiths and pupils with English as an additional language.

## **Vision**

Open hearts

Open Minds

Open Arms

Our vision is to enrich the lives of our children emotionally, physically, spiritually and academically, where every person is valued, nurtured and empowered.

Our vision is underpinned by Jesus' commandment to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

## **1. Introduction**

Collective worship is an integral part of life at Meanwood CE Primary School, reflecting the Christian foundation of the school and supporting the spiritual development of pupils. This policy sets out the purpose, nature, and implementation of collective worship at our school, in accordance with the Church of England's educational guidelines and the legal requirements for collective worship in schools.

## **2. Aims of Collective Worship**

Collective worship at Meanwood CE Primary School aims to:

- Foster a sense of reverence, awe, and wonder in the lives of pupils.
- Encourage the development of a personal understanding of Christian faith and values.
- Celebrate key Christian festivals and seasons.
- Promote spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.
- Provide opportunities for reflection and prayer.
- Build a sense of belonging within the school community.
- Reflect on the teachings of the Bible, the life of Jesus Christ, and key Christian concepts.

## **3. Legal Requirements**

In line with the Education Act 1988, collective worship must be:

- Christian in nature but open to pupils of all faiths and none.
- Conducted daily, either individually or in groups.
- Offered in accordance with the school's religious character.

As a Church of England school, we emphasise the centrality of Christian worship and teaching, which is inclusive and respectful of all pupils' beliefs.

## **4. Organisation and Structure of Collective Worship**

Frequency: Collective worship will take place daily, with at least one whole-school act of worship per week. Other acts of worship may take place in classrooms, key stages or smaller groups.

Leadership: Collective worship will be led by the Headteacher, class teachers, members of the clergy, or invited speakers. Children may also be involved in leading worship as part of their spiritual development.

Content: Worship themes will be drawn from the Christian calendar, key Bible stories, Christian virtues (e.g., love, kindness, forgiveness), and the school's core values (Open Heart, Open Mind, Open Arms). Special services will be held to mark Christian festivals such as Christmas, Easter, and Harvest.

Setting: Worship will take place in the school hall, classrooms, or other spaces, allowing for both formal and informal settings. The space will be arranged to create a sense of reverence and focus.

## **5. Participation and Inclusivity**

While collective worship is Christian in nature, it is designed to be inclusive. Pupils of all faiths and none will be encouraged to participate, and there will be respect for the diversity of beliefs within the school community.

Pupils are invited to join in with prayers, hymns, and reflections, but they will not be coerced.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship. They should inform the school in writing if they wish to exercise this right.

## **6. Planning and Delivery**

The themes for collective worship will be planned in advance to ensure a balance of content, including reflection on scripture, Christian values, moral development, and celebration.

Class teachers, and the R.E subject lead will work with the school's leadership team to prepare the content of collective worship, ensuring it is age-appropriate and relevant to the pupils' experiences.

Worship may include Bible readings, prayers, songs, hymns, and periods of silence for reflection.

The school will make use of appropriate resources such as Christian liturgies, online resources, and support from local clergy.

## **7. Evaluation and Review**

The effectiveness of collective worship will be regularly monitored and evaluated through:

- Feedback from pupils and staff.
- Observation and reflection by school leaders and governors.
- Consultation with parents and local clergy.
- Annual review of the worship plan and objectives.

The policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of the school community and remains aligned with current guidance from the Church of England and educational authorities.

## **8. Conclusion**

Collective worship is an essential part of life at Meanwood CE Primary School, offering pupils opportunities to grow spiritually and morally. It is a time for reflection, prayer, and celebration of the Christian faith, helping children to develop a deeper understanding of Christian values and teachings while respecting the diversity of our school community.