

Collective Worship / Assembly Policy

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Our Vision Statement

John 10:10

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Our school's approach to this policy follows that of the Church of England Education Office in that it seeks to be faith-sensitive and inclusive. It is underpinned by Our Vision of 'Life in all its fullness' and ensures that all of school life incorporates the values of the Christian Faith. These values are central to all that we do and determine how we will implement all policies and procedures. We want to ensure that through our gateways of citizenship, leadership, expression, exploration and flourishing, all pupils and adults are shown how to be compassionate, passionate, honest, inspiring and responsible individuals. By starting with our vision, we aim to ensure that all members of our school community understand our expectations, our practise and the ways in which we will implement this policy

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1. Introduction

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our values and celebrates the contribution that each child makes to our community. Worship will reflect the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognize 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. Our worships are linked to our gateways where character education is central to our vision. Every gateway has a linked bible story as a basis, but we aim to provide children with multiple opportunities to develop spiritually and morally. We believe all our children can live **‘Life in all its fullness’** through this approach.

Our Gateways linked to a Bible story

Gateway	School Value	Biblical Verse 1	Bible verse 2	Bible Story
Exploration	Passion	Luke 1:37 For nothing will be impossible with God.	Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.	Jesus Cleanses the Temple The Lost Sheep Noah's Ark Jesus Heals the Blind
Expression	Honesty	Zechariah 8:16 Tell the truth to each other	John 8:32 And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free	Zacchaeus The Tax Collector Zelophehad's Daughter The Prodigal Son Jacob and Esau
Citizenship	Compassion	Matthew 25:39 Love your neighbour as yourself	Colossians 3:12 Clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience	The Good Samaritan Miriam little brother Moses Tabitha supports the Poor Washing the disciple's feet
Leadership	Inspiration	Joshua 1:9 Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the lord your God is with you wherever you go	Matthew 7:12 Do unto others as you would have them do to you	Moses Leads his people Esther the Brave Jesus Feeding the 5000 David and Goliath
Flourishing	Responsibility	Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me'	Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female, for you are all one in Christ.	Through the Roof The Widows Mite The Wise and Flourish Builder Parable of the Talents
			(additional stories for term 6)	Jesus serves his people Daniel and the Lion's Den Jesus Calms the storm

2. Aims

Collective worship at Brixham Church of England school will support the school's Vision Statement, by providing opportunities for students and staff:

- to explore a relationship with God in Jesus Christ
- to develop character values through a deep understanding of our learning gateways
- to reflect on values that are of a broadly Anglican Christian tradition, whilst recognizing the validity and importance of other Christian denominations, religions and belief systems
- to consider spiritual and moral issues and, through reflection, raise awareness of the ultimate questions of life relating to matters of faith
- to reflect on their own beliefs
- to deepen and widen the experience of those of 'faith' and encourage those of 'little or no formal faith' so that they begin to feel for themselves something of what it means to worship
- to develop an enquiring mind and express and explore their own views openly and honestly
- to develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- to foster an awareness of the world around them and a sense of their place within it
- to develop a respect for and an understanding of different beliefs
- to develop a sense of sharing and belonging through different groups of students coming together

3. The Anglican Christian Tradition

The following may be described as shared Christian elements of collective worship:

- Using the Bible, either as a source of knowledge and inspiration for themes and stories
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Saints Days
- Learning and saying prayers from a number of sources, in particular the Lord's Prayer, the Grace and St Richard's Prayer
- Singing a wide variety of hymns and songs from traditional to rap
- Experiencing Christian symbols in worship and reflecting on their meaning e.g.
- cross, crucifix, bread and wine and candles
- The use of prayer, silence and reflection
- Using Psalms with simple responses – Taizé style

Whilst these are more distinctively Anglican:

- Using prayers from Common Worship
- Using Anglican sentences and responses e.g.
- *The Lord is here / His Spirit is with us*
- *Peace be with you/ and also with you*
- *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord / In the name of Christ,*
- *Amen*
- Using Collects as a focus for worship
- Celebrating Eucharist
- Encouraging links with the worship of the local Parish Church

4. Implementation

Collective worship is a legal requirement. Each school must provide a Christian act of collective worship for all pupils every day. This act of worship can take place at any time of the school day and in any regular school grouping e.g. whole school, key stage or class.

Brixham Church of England Collective Worship Planning and timetabling

We have a daily act of worship. The termly Worship plan is made available to all staff at the beginning of each term. The plan identifies the main theme for Worship, includes hymns, resources and links all these aspects of worship to our five gateways. The plan also indicates the dates for services, Eucharist's and any other significant Christian festivals of the year including Christmas, Easter and Harvest. The school uses the resource 'Roots and Fruits' – this is an excellent resource and guide for worship that can be used by both children and adults to lead worship. The format of worships are focused around 4 four key words: Gathering • Engaging • Responding • Sending.

Daily worships are listed below:

Day	Worship
Monday	Whole school worship (BNS / AM/ NS)
Tuesday	Singing worship
Wednesday	Whole school – Rev'd Stephen Yates
Thursday	Class Worship (spirituality)
Friday	Parents worship

5. Monitoring and Evaluation

Together, children and teachers complete the monitoring and evaluation worship sheets in their classrooms once a week. Our Year worship monitors also evaluate worships and Governors regularly come to worship and complete a Governor monitoring sheet. At our Services and Eucharists we offer a visitor's feedback book to parents, friends and family so that they can share their thoughts with us and so that we can act on any of their ideas for improvement or change. Our Ethos group regularly monitor collective worships through our termly monitoring enquiries.

Self-assessment and Inspection

School Self-assessment will be completed on the SIAMS Toolkit by the Headteacher with other Church leads/governors/ethos members and diocesan advisors. Worship is inspected under S48 of the Education Act.

6. Legal Requirements

There must be a daily act of collective worship in all maintained schools for all pupils, other than those in a nursery class or a nursery school. This can take place at any time in the school day and in any groupings. Worship in Brixham C of E will be distinctly Christian and reflect Anglican traditions.

The Academy for Character and Excellence have the responsibility for ensuring that the school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact of worship on the school community in consultation with the headteacher.

7. The right of withdrawal

In Brixham C of E school there are some children whose families are members of another faith, or who hold a non-religious world view. Part of the distinctively Christian nature of Church of England Schools is that they should be as hospitable and inclusive to all in the community they serve. As collective worship occupies such a central place in the life of the Church school, this should be made clear on induction, and it is hoped that parents will be making a specific choice of the school knowing that the distinctive ethos will determine a Christian tradition within collective worship. Our collective worships will be ***inclusive, inspiring and invitational***.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/Collective%20Worship%20Guidance%2018052021.pdf>

The 1944 and 1988 Education Acts state that parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

Date of validation October 2022

Signed

Chair of Governors