

Lindley CE Infant School Collective Worship Policy January 2017

Name of Policy Writer/Amendments	Date Written/Amended	Next Review Date
Nicola Beaumont	January 2017	

At Lindley CE Infant School we embrace the ethos and beliefs of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

This policy follows the principles of:

Article 3 -The best interests of children must be the primary concern in making decisions that may affect them.

Article 12 – Respect for the views of the child

Article 13 – Freedom of expression

Article 28 – Right to education

Learning Together: Achieving Together

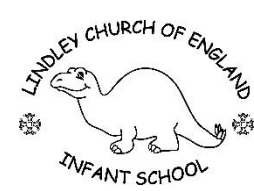


Respect
Friendship
Trust

Our school is an inclusive community.
It is a place where everyone is valued and all
achievements are praised, celebrated and encouraged.
All children are inspired to develop their unique
God given talents in a safe, happy and caring
environment.

Aims:

- *Through a strong set of Christian values, children and adults are encouraged to respect themselves. They are taught to respect the rights and needs of others, thereby equipping them with the skills and attitudes to become successful global citizens of the future.*
- *To support children in developing a reflective approach to life and sensitivity to all God's creation by providing an awareness and experience of the living Christian faith through our strong Christian ethos.*
- *To support all children in reaching their full potential by providing a personalised education.*
- *To treat everyone with equality and fairness*
- *To have high expectations in a secure, friendly and caring atmosphere that rejoices in effort and success but where it is safe to make mistakes.*
- *To provide children with excellent learning experiences ensuring that learning is fun and exciting.*
- *To promote the health and well-being of our pupils and staff through a well planned, creative curriculum in an environment that promotes healthy lifestyle choices.*
- *To encourage and value the contributions that adults make to the education and care of our children.*
- *Through our firm Christian foundation we encourage the school and wider community to work together in partnership, promoting community cohesion whilst strengthening and enriching the life of the school.*



Introduction

Lindley CE Infant School is an educationally inclusive school where the learning and teaching, achievements, attitudes and well-being of every young person matter.

Equal Opportunities

The governors and staff are committed to providing the full range of opportunities for all pupils, regardless of gender, disability, ethnicity, social, cultural or religious background. All pupils have access to the curriculum, and the right to a learning environment which dispels ignorance, prejudice or stereotyping

Purpose

Lindley CE Infant School is a Church of England Academy with a distinctive Christian ethos. Collective Worship is an important part of each school day which integrates core Christian values in an inclusive environment. It is an opportunity for the spirituality of pupils, staff and visitors to find time for reflection, expression and development. Worship in our school reflects the tradition and creeds of the Anglican Church while valuing diversity in religion, race and culture as an essential contribution to the life of the school. We strive to ensure that Christian beliefs are used in ways that are inclusive and offer opportunities for personal growth and development.

Aims

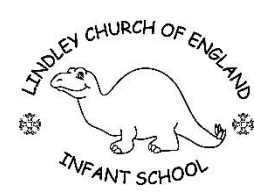
The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs and values
- to encourage leadership, participation and response
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit
- to make a positive contribution towards children's personal development, self esteem and well being
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes
- to recognise children's rights so that all members of the school community can live, learn and work together in a supportive way (*articles 12,13,14 UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools*)
- to promote equality by planning worship that is differentiated for the performance of all groups and individuals
- to create a positive atmosphere that enables everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment to achieve their potential.
- to teach children how to worship.

Legal Requirements

The 1988 Education Reform Act states that collective worship should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. There is a difference between an act of collective worship and an assembly of pupils which may reflect the traditions of other faiths present in the school and wider community.

All children are expected to attend each assembly, however parents retain the right to withdraw their child from acts of worship. Parents and carers do not have to explain or give reasons for their request but should inform the headteacher in writing prior to child's admission to school. This complies with the 1944 Education Act (restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act).



If parents do withdraw their child, we can ensure that acceptable arrangements are made for his/her adequate supervision, with a purposeful activity, and that the child will not be made to feel isolated or different.

Planning

Collective Worship recognises Christianity as a multi-cultural world faith and through the use of a wide range of resources children will develop an understanding and respect for diversity and the difference both within the church and other faith communities.

Each half term is planned in detail, and the overall plan for the year reflects and fulfils the requirements of the 1988 Education Reform Act. Our Acts of Worship are drawn largely from planned themes. They reflect different festivals, celebrations, seasonal activities, or are linked with visits to school by outside speakers. They incorporate broad themes that are acceptable to other traditions, and also draw on the richness of stories and poems, music and drama of other faiths and beliefs. Cross-curricular themes, such as Personal, Social, Health Education and Citizenship are referred to and included where appropriate. There is a 3 yearly cycle of themes linked directly to Christian Values (See Appendix 1). These are also published on the school website under the collective worship area.

Resources

- Each classroom has its own reflection area and a set of resources for class based Collective Worship with artefacts to support reflection and prayer.
- Coloured drapes to reflect the liturgical calendar are in every classroom.
- We use the SHAP calendar of Festivals to include festivals of other faiths
- Various poetry and Assembly themed books are located in the Headteacher's office
- The Values for Life Resource with books that support the values including stories from other faiths are kept in the Headteacher's office.
- The Diocesan Resource Centre is used as and when needed to support the Church calendar and the RE curriculum.

Monitoring

There is a termly timetable of monitoring where each class will monitor and evaluate an act of worship using a Collective Worship monitoring form (see appendix 2). Staff, governors, visitors and parents will contribute to the monitoring process throughout the year. Monitoring feedback is evaluated by the Governors Christian Values and Worship committee and the children's sub-committee which is to be called 'The Special Thinkers.' The impact of this evaluation will be reported through the Headteacher to School Council and the full governing body and any changes will be reflected in the planning and policy review.



Organisation of collective Worship

Collective Worship takes place every day but varies in time and approach across Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. The weekly pattern of worship is flexible but is normally:

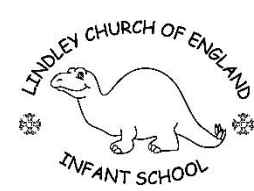
			Led by
Monday	9.10 – 9.25	Whole School Sing	HT/DHT
Tuesday	9.10 – 9.25	Whole School collective Worship	HT
Wednesday	9.10 – 9.25	Year 1 & 2 Collective Worship	DHT
	10.35– 10.50	Reception Collective Worship	HT
Thursday	9.10 – 9.25	Whole School Praise & Prayer	DHT
Friday	9.10– 9.25	Whole School Golden Worship	HT

Within this basic pattern, we aim to allow for an element of flexibility and spontaneity that allows children and staff to contribute their own interests and experiences. Teachers lead collective worship in the absence of the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. We invite as wide a variety of other people as possible to lead or take part in our Acts of Worship. We have a planned programme of Worship with our Open the book friends from both St Stephen's and Lindley Methodist Churches

The vicar is involved closely in worship both in school and at church. Worship at church is seen as an integral part of school life which the children quickly recognise. The relationship of the church and school is one of mutual support which leads to many opportunities to use the church for worship and to support learning across the curriculum.

Each half-term we hold year group Family Worship when families are invited to join us in worship. We encourage families to join us because it promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the development of our children.

- ◆ Observing the cycle of the Anglican year: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost.
- ◆ Learning Anglican responses and prayers, including the Lord's Prayer in age appropriate ways.
- ◆ Reflects local Anglican traditions and practices including developing an understanding of the Eucharist & communion leading up to Easter ie last supper
- ◆ The worship table reflects the liturgical colours of the church year and includes a candle as a focus for worship, the bible



Opportunities for Prayer in the school day

The use of prayer in worship requires sensitivity and care. We take care to use language that is appropriate to pupils' understanding, and ideas and images that are suitable for their ages and backgrounds. Children are given the opportunity to take part in prayerful moments, if they wish, but they can choose to have a quiet moment with their own thoughts/prayer. Collective worship reflects the Trinitarian nature of Christianity and enables learners to develop an understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our aim is to help children to use prayer for communication, for response and for reflection. Prayers include traditional, published material and improvised reflective prayer. Children are encouraged to respond to prayer in a way that they feel comfortable with, to listen, to join in or reflect upon their own thoughts. Children are encouraged to voice their own prayers, and to write them, and these are used in class and Collective Worship when appropriate. Reflective areas around school give children the opportunity for voluntary spiritual reflection as they move around school.

Each class says a prayer of thanksgiving before lunch each day, and a prayer of thanks and commendation before going home.

Equality Impact Assessment

This policy will be evaluated and monitored for its impact on pupils, staff, parents and carers from the different groups that make up our school. For any changes that affect equality for all, an impact assessment would be carried out. This policy has been assessed for Equality Impact Assessment and has a medium priority.

Review And Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Collective Worship Coordinator.

Policy to be reviewed in January 2020.

Policy agreed at the Governors' meeting on 17th January 2017