



The Holme Church of England Primary School

The Good Shepherd Trust

Academies in partnership with the Guildford Diocese Education Trust
The Education Centre, The Cathedral, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7UP Tel: 01483 450423

Collective Worship Policy



Diocese of Guildford

Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Responsible Body
February 2016	February 2019	Headteacher	Governing Body

Legal Requirements of Religious Education

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Our Philosophy

At The Holme the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our Christian ethos and our Values-based education approach. It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly. We actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. These include whole school worship, class worship and key stage worship. Worship is led by school staff and also our parish team. Children may also join in leading aspects of worship. Our current schedule can be found in Appendix One.

Children come into Collective Worship quietly, preparing themselves for reflection and prayer. We use the song, 'Here I am to Worship' in order to help the children establish a reflective mindset; some children choose to listen to the tune, while others prefer to sing along quietly. Year 5/6 children help to run our worship, preparing the music and setting out the altar, with candles, cloth and cross as a focal point. To signal the start of our worship, a child is chosen from the 'fairness pot' to light the candles. Any non-worship business (notices, safety etc) is not conducted until the candles have been snuffed to signal the end of our worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Worship closes with a prayer, which may be specific to that day's topic or may be our school prayer, which the children all know by heart. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 choose a prayer to read in our weekly Celebration Assembly.

At The Holme, we hold an annual Spiritual Well-Being Day, with a Prayer Space in school. This comprises a number of Prayer Stations to allow the children reflection of an inward, upward and outward nature. We also have a half-termly prayer station, which children might visit with their whole class, or might choose to visit during playtimes and lunchtimes.

Each class has its own end-of-day prayer, which is said together just before going home. Before lunch each class says our lunchtime prayer to thank God for our food.

Church Links

The whole school takes part in services at All Saints Church for Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter. These services are planned by both staff and pupils and supported by the priest-in-charge, Rev. Andrew Barton. Parents and members of the local parish are also welcomed to these services.

Key Stage 2 attends services once a term, which are jointly planned by the children and the church. The aim of these services is to increase children's understanding of Church conventions, of linking worship with their own reflections and behaviours and to heighten their sense of community.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

The collective worship schedule is planned out each term to enable each worship leader to plan complementary worship and accompanying music. Records are also kept in the Collective Worship file, providing extra details.

The impact of Worship is measured through pupil voice (interviews and questionnaires) as well as staff and parent questionnaires. Worship is also evaluated by observations as detailed in the RE and Christian Distinctiveness Action Plan. Results are collated and acted upon.

Linked Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school Religious Education and Values-Based Education policies.

Headteacher:	Ruth Worswick	Date:	February 2016
Chair of Governing Body:	Jeff Batchelor	Date:	February 2016

Appendix One

Worship Schedule

Monday	Whole school worship led by the headteacher, following the theme of the value of the month.
Tuesday	Whole school worship led by a member of the parish team, following the theme of the value of the month.
Wednesday	Singing assembly, to include a variety of hymns, values-based songs and favourites of the pupils and staff. This includes reflection of key themes in our hymns and a prayer.
Thursday	Celebration assembly led by Years 5 and 6, with parents joining us. This includes reference to the values we are celebrating and a prayer.
Friday	Whole school assembly led by the assistant headteacher, with a focus on our learning values.

Once a month each class will hold a Class Worship. EYFS and KS1 will hold theirs on the same day, allowing a KS2 worship to be held and then KS2 will hold class worship while EYFS and KS1 worship together on a different day. This allows us to have key stage worship led by the headteacher or assistant headteacher.