

# KULB Collaboration



## Collective Worship Policy

### Leeds and Broomfield Church of England Primary School

### Ulcombe Church of England Primary School

Date written: May 2015

Date approved: July 2015

Date for Review: *This policy is reviewed every three years or when updated information from the Diocese provides a significant change*

Signed: Chair of Governors:

Signed: Executive Headteacher/HoS:

At Ulcombe CE Primary school this policy will be delivered through strong links made to our Christian values of:

**Forgiveness Thankfulness Trust Friendship Endurance Compassion**

## **Our Vision**

“To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God and to devote the will to the purpose of God”.

William Temple (1881-1894)

### ***As a school our Christian Values are-***

Forgiveness, Thankfulness, Trust, Friendship, Endurance, Compassion

Ulcombe CE Primary School

- Inspiring children
- Enabling achievement
- Preparing for life
- A happy and caring, Christian, village school

### **The KULB Collaboration**

*Together we will achieve our goals*

Since September 2015, Ulcombe CE Primary school has been part of the KULB collaboration whose vision is as follows:

*The Pupils, staff, parents and governors of the KULB collaboration of primary schools, will work together to raise aspirations, develop a strong community and value the diversity of each school within our own beliefs*

### **Introduction**

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the distinctive Christian character of our school, reaffirms our Christian values and celebrates the contribution that each child makes to our community. Worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England as well as other Christian traditions, and recognizes and follows the Church's liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors.

### **Aims**

Collective worship at Ulcombe CE Primary School is in line with the school's Trust Deed and supports the school's Mission Statement, by providing opportunities for students and staff:

- to explore a relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- to reflect on our explicit Christian values
- to develop personal spirituality especially through prayer, and also through a range of other experiences
- to be engaged in an exploration of the relevance and application of the Christian faith
- 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 Christian values
- to foster an awareness of the world around them and a sense of their place within it.

### **The Anglican Christian Tradition**

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

- Using the Bible as a source of knowledge and inspiration for themes and stories
- Observing the cycle of the Church's Year – Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Harvest and Saints Days
- Learning and saying Christian prayers from a number of sources, for example, the Lord's Prayer
- Using simple Anglican (or Methodist) liturgy at levels appropriate to students'/pupils' age
- Singing a wide variety of Christian hymns and songs
- Experiencing Christian symbolism in worship and reflecting on their meaning e.g. cross, crucifix, bread and wine and candles
- Using prayer, silence and reflection
- Celebrating the Eucharist/Holy Communion

## **Policy Provision**

### **Implementation**

Collective worship is a legal requirement. In line with the statutory requirement, a Christian act of collective worship is provided for all pupils every day. All teaching staff attend all acts of collective worship. Time allocated to collective worship is not part of curriculum time.

There is an act of Collective worship every day where children have the opportunity to:

#### **Gather**

- ✚ We gather together and greet each other
- ✚ We all come to play a part in this community
- ✚ We are preparing to meet God

#### **Engage**

- ✚ We engage with the big things and the little things in life
- ✚ We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible
- ✚ We are listening for God's message for us

#### **Respond**

- ✚ We respond to what we have heard and seen
- ✚ We respond together as individuals
- ✚ We are given the opportunity to worship God

#### **Send**

- ✚ We are sent out to love and serve one another and to make a difference in the world
- ✚ We are all dismissed with God's blessing

This takes place on the following days and times:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – 2.50-3.05 led by members of the school team

Thursday - 10.10 am led by a visitor from the Ministry team.

Friday 2.50-3.05pm – Celebration assembly linked to collective worship with Parent and carers invited to attend. This time together gives an opportunity to show how much the school community values the achievements of its members. This is also the time when all can join together in worship and say our school prayer together.

It is recognised that it is important to take time to learn to worship through songs and music as part of the act of worship at times when the school comes together. This musical opportunity also includes time to follow the collective worship process of Gather, Engage, Respond and Send

In all collective worship there is evidence of use of varying types of worship experiences through prayer, music, silence, Bible reading, story, dance, puppets, DVD and similar clips from internet sites such as You Tube. Children also present and act out key aspects of the identified themes at times during collective worship sessions.

Hall displays link closely to the Christian aspects discussed in collective worship sessions and/or the Christian values of the school. These include work completed by the children, pictures, artefacts and references to bible stories and parables.

### **Church and Parish links**

The ministry team from the Len Valley Benefice conducts worship once weekly on a Thursday. They share frequent contact regarding the synchronisation of themes and topics and follow the Diocese plans in line with school policy.

Worship is held in All Saints Church, Ulcombe during the year. Parents are invited to participate in the Leavers' service as well as Easter, Christmas and Harvest services.

When possible Year 6 attends School Cathedral Day in Canterbury where various activities concerning the history of the church are organised for children

The school adopts a regular charity each year and makes donations to charitable organisations when appropriate

The Family Trust visits the school once a term to conduct an assembly using visual, auditory and kinaesthetic means to deliver their leaving worship. They also come into school to do a Panto and lead an Easter Experience.

### **Planning and Co-ordination**

Worship is planned on a termly basis based on the collective worship plans from the Diocese of Canterbury and Rochester and these will include aspects of the school's Christian Values as appropriate.

The Re Co-ordinator is responsible for medium term planning, recording, monitoring and maintaining resources.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Worship is monitored periodically and feedback is given to staff as soon as possible after the monitoring session. Feedback refers to the good practice delivered during the collective worship sessions and further areas for development. It also helps identify any possible CPD requirements of staff.

### **Resources and Budgeting**

Resourcing and budgeting for collective worship is an additional aspect of the KULB school improvement plan. The R.E Co-ordinator monitors provision of music, visual focus, books and resources.

### **Self-evaluation and Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)**

School Self-evaluation is completed on the SIAMS Self-evaluation forms provided by the Diocese. Worship is inspected under Section 48 of the Education Act (SIAMS).

### **Parental Withdrawal**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from acts of collective worship. However, as collective worship is central to our ethos, our headteacher would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this decision with parents. Students not attending collective worship sessions will have the opportunity to read or complete work in their own classrooms under the supervision of a teaching assistant.

Date of validation..... Signed.....

Chair of Governors

Date of review.....

Signed.....

Chair of Governors

## **Appendix**

### **Inviting Visitors to lead collective worship**

When briefing visitors for school worship, make sure you tell them:

- who exactly will attend, whether it will be the whole school or a section of it, and if so, which section

- what the school's aims, ethos and policies are
- how long the speaker is expected to talk for (10 – 12 minutes)
- the current assembly theme and context for the speaker - what has already been done and what will be done later in the term
- how pupils and staff are normally involved in collective worship
- what resources or hardware are available to them, should they so wish
- exactly how much their contribution will be - is it just the talk or will they be asked to choose the hymn and lead the prayers

and remember to:

- give them plenty of notice - don't assume that a visitor who wears an RE or religious "hat" can produce an assembly at a few moments notice!
- invite them to attend an act of collective worship beforehand so that they may see how the school conducts them, or, if this is not practical, lend them a copy of the collective worship policy document
- some visitors may also need to be told that collective worship is not an appropriate vehicle for hard sell evangelism, and that inclusive language ("we all believe....") is to be avoided

Visitors who are regularly involved in collective worship should appreciate sensitive feedback on the appropriateness of their contribution to the school assembly programme.

And finally.... NEVER leave a visiting speaker to take an act of collective worship alone, it is bad manners, bad educational practice, and bad churchmanship!