



# Crazies Hill

## C.E. Primary School

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### Collective Worship Policy

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**Committee Responsible:** Staffing & Curriculum

**Date of Next Review:** February 2024

Version	Date Reviewed	Changes	Date Approved
1	Nov 2019		05.12.19
2	Feb 2022	As per policy review cycle	Feb 2022

'A tree is known by its fruit, people by their actions'  
(based on Matthew 12 verse 33-5'.

Our vision at Crazies Hill is that our 'fruit' will be children and adults who have the resilience to weather life's ups and downs, respect for themselves, others and their environment and the ability to build and maintain good relationships with all in their community. All our policies are written with this vision in mind.

Signed: Jo Shell, Head of School

Signed: Lesley Turville, Chair of Governors



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## 1.0 Introduction

Collective worship is central to the life of Crazies Hill CE Primary School. Worship offers the pupils and others in our school an opportunity to reflect upon values and issues in the context of our Christian vision and ethos. It is an expression of our vision and it shapes our approach towards others and to what we do in school. We invite all in school to join our daily worship and parents are welcome to attend for special occasions.

Our collective worship provides pupils and staff the opportunity to:

- celebrate -
  - Christian seasons and festivals and to recognise festivals from other faiths;
  - school values associated with our vision;
  - pupils' and adults' achievements;
- experience prayer, stillness, reflection, worship in a variety of forms including songs, stories and drama;
- grow in their understanding of and participation in prayer;
- create a reflective approach to life including the exploration of deep questions;
- develop as a community centred on our clear and distinctive Christian vision;
- experience a variety of styles of worship;
- participate and respond, through active involvement in the planning, leading and evaluation of worship;
- feel safe and affirmed;
- worship God on their own terms.

Worship will reflect aspects of the curriculum and in particular will:

- nurture spiritual growth;
- enable participants to consider moral questions in a Christian context;
- enhance social understanding and encourage responses to issues through courageous advocacy;
- give participants a chance to reflect on the place and importance of faith in the lives of people today;
- encourage participants to explore beliefs drawn from their own cultural heritage;
- reflect the teachings of Jesus and a Trinitarian theology.

## 2.0 The Pattern of Collective Worship

Collective worship takes place in a variety of groupings in the school hall. On occasions it is carried out in the classroom or outside. Acts of worship are also carried out in St Mary's Church Wargrave. We follow the seasons of the Church year and within these, significant festivals and other special days are observed. These always include Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. Other important days in the calendar such as Remembrance and the Leavers' Service also feature in collective worship.

Whenever worship takes place, it is planned to promote participants' thinking beyond the time given to worship itself.

### 3.0 Leading Worship

Worship has a variety of leaders from both within school and from the local Church Community. Pupils are given opportunities to lead worship throughout the year. Visitors are welcome to contribute to collective worship from time to time.

### 4.0 Planning Acts of Collective Worship

Our acts of worship are carefully planned to ensure a balance between content and experience. Leaders, including the children, plan the content and activities included in worship according to what is most appropriate to the season, theme and the needs of the pupils. The themes of worship are chosen to both express and explore our vision and the way in which this vision is experienced in school through the associated values. Throughout their time at our school children will encounter a wide variety of activities such as dance and drama alongside more traditional elements of worship such as prayer and song.

Our collective worship follows a set pattern (liturgy) which includes music to open, an opening prayer and response, the lighting of three candles with words that relate to the trinity and a closing prayer. This pattern unites all acts of worship and provides a framework for children when planning worship.

Prayer is a vital part of our worship. It is introduced with a form of words that invites but does not coerce pupils to participate. Our prayers are addressed to God reflecting the traditions and practices of the Church of England. Pupils who prefer not to pray are encouraged to use these times to reflect on the important messages shared in our worship.

Our worship is regularly reviewed through discussions with participants, observation and reflection. Our evaluations are fed into the planning of future worship.

#### **A legal note**

By law, collective worship must:

- be provided for every child every day;
- reflect the school's Trust Deed.

Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that collective worship will be a beneficial and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their backgrounds

and beliefs. It is invitational, inclusive and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any acts of worship. In the first instance, we ask parents who may wish to exercise this right to visit school to speak with the Head of School.