



# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

POLICY DATE: November 2023  
REVIEW DATE: November 2024

**Imagine, Believe, Achieve**

**Matlock Bath Holy Trinity CofE (VC) Primary School Collective Worship  
Policy**

**“Let us run the race before us and never give up”**

**Hebrews 12:1**

**Our School Visions and Values:**

(Written in collaboration with the children and staff of MBHT)

- ❖ Our school is a safe, caring and trusting place where people are not left out.
- ❖ We understand, appreciate and respect everyone.
- ❖ Together, we create an aspirational environment where everyone loves to learn.
- ❖ We are guided by Christian values, rooted in the Church and where we live.
- ❖ We want to be prepared for life in our future world; both real and virtual.

**Introduction and Statutory Duty of our School:**

Matlock Bath Holy Trinity is a VC Church of England Primary School. All maintained schools have a statutory duty to provide a daily collective worship. Collective Worship takes place every day for all pupils.

**Rationale for Collective Worship:**

For our church school, Collective Worship is a highly valued part of the school day as it is the time when we gather together to affirm what is important to us, to our school and to our world. Here, the school affirms the claims of Christian values underlying the ethos of the school. It provides an opportunity for pupils to worship God, whilst seeking to be relevant to, and inclusive, of all. It reflects our Anglican tradition as well as exploring with pupils and staff a variety of ways in which Christians worship God.

In acts of Collective Worship in our school, it is recognised that in our school community, some members will come from families with a commitment to the Christian faith, others from families with a commitment to another faith and yet others will have no particular commitment to any tradition. At MBHT, we value and welcome everyone with open arms. We encourage a culture of mutual respect regardless of their faiths and beliefs.

Acts of worship in our school will be predominantly and overtly Christian. However, as there are children from a variety of faiths and none, in addition to children from Christian homes, we do, from time to time, draw upon religious material from, or make reference to, a variety of traditions when preparing collective worship. This is most likely to take place during RE lessons as opposed to Collective Worship times.

At MBHT Primary School, Collective Worship aims to offer a space to all to...

Spiritual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• think about God</li> <li>• explore a relationship with God</li> <li>• offer praise and thanksgiving to God</li> <li>• listen to God to get a sense of things unseen</li> <li>• explore personal belief</li> <li>• feel a sense of belonging to a group that shares and celebrates together, as well as being thoughtful or sad together</li> <li>• reflect upon ourselves and our lives as seen as part of a bigger picture</li> <li>• wonder</li> <li>• gain inspiration</li> </ul>
Educational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explore the Christian values of the school</li> <li>• use stillness and quietness to have a quiet moment in a busy day to celebrate gifts, talents and achievements</li> <li>• learn about different ways of worshipping and about imagery and symbolism</li> <li>• learn about the faith of the local church community</li> <li>• participate in marking important features of the church calendar</li> <li>• consider spiritual questions raised in the rest of the curriculum</li> </ul>

In satisfying these aims the following principles are also observed:

Inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... whatever their age, aptitude or background</li> <li>... where the integrity of each is respected</li> <li>... enabling children to explore and evaluate their own and others' beliefs</li> <li>... sharing worship from time to time with parents, governors and members of the local community</li> </ul>
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### How do we organise Collective Worship?

Collective Worship takes place daily usually in the school hall at Matlock Bath Holy Trinity. It follows the pattern here:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Thursday	Friday
Time	9.15	3.00	9.15		3.00	9.15
Group	Whole school	Whole school	Willow class	Oak & Ash class	Whole school	Whole school
Venue	Hall	Hall	Classroom based		Hall	Hall
Leader	Headteacher	Class teacher	Class teacher		Head teacher, teachers and pupils	Head teacher

### How do we plan Collective Worship?

Each half-term, there is a theme for Collective Worship based on “Roots and Fruits” and the Christian Values our school is based on. The Collective Worship co-ordinator will outline the half term using the resource as a consistent approach. The themes chosen are broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective as appropriate to the age and stage of the children. This will mean that by the end of the week the pupils will have had the opportunity to reflect on the theme from a variety of viewpoints and delivery styles. Alternatively, class teachers may develop their worship from themes and events that occur on the curriculum during the week. On occasions, it is recognised that those leading worship may feel that they need to respond to local or national events and this is usually done on Wednesdays when a more tailored approach can be made within each class.

Resources are kept in the school hall. Any additional resources are sought through the RE Lead teacher, who may, in turn, contact the Diocese.

We welcome visitors to our school as part of Collective Worship including Hannah from MAST (Matlock Area Schools Trust) and ‘Open the Book’ from the Methodist Church on a monthly basis.

### **The content of Collective Worship:**

Within our collective worship, we provide a wide variety of stimuli to help pupils to reflect upon and respond to the central theme. These include:

- ❖ Story
- ❖ Music
- ❖ Film clips
- ❖ Magic
- ❖ Images
- ❖ Poetry
- ❖ Drama
- ❖ Puppets
- ❖ Games
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Questioning
- ❖ Singing
- ❖ Praying

As we are an Anglican school we reflect aspects of Anglican worship in the following ways:

- ❖ We use the Bible and The Big Frieze as a source of Christian teaching, and give it a prominent place in our worship.
- ❖ We follow the cycle of the Anglican year; Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost and some saints' days.
- ❖ We use liturgical colours for our worship focus.
- ❖ We use Christian symbols and artefacts, exploring their meaning for Christians
- ❖ Our worship follows a liturgical pattern eg Gathering ... Engaging...Responding...Sending

### **The management of Collective Worship:**

The governors hold overall responsibility for ensuring that the legal requirements for worship are met, but the Head Teacher has the statutory accountability for ensuring that collective worship takes place.

The nominated person with specific responsibility for collective worship in our school is Mrs Bors. We liaise with Sheila from Holy Trinity Church in the planning, monitoring and evaluating of collective worship.

### **Arrangements for recording, monitoring and evaluating Collective Worship:**

A record of the theme and content of the collective worship is kept in a file with the Collective Worship co-ordinator.

Evaluation takes place in the following ways:

- ❖ There is a termly monitoring pro forma for the school Church Council to complete.

- ❖ Whole school feedback from the children is sought and discussed regularly.

Governors monitor the provision of collective worship, by asking a representative to attend a session per term and then feeding back to the governing body. Governors ensure that collective worship is reviewed on a regular basis.

#### **Parental Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship:**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. If a parent wishes to consider this option, the Head Teacher should be approached.

#### **Review:**

The Headteacher and Collective Worship co-ordinator will review this policy, its implementation and effectiveness and present it to Governors on an annual basis.

C Layhe-Humphreys  
Headteacher

#### **Appendices:**

- ❖ School Motto
- ❖ Collective Worship sequence
- ❖ Monitoring proforma

Matlock Bath Holy Trinity  
CofE (VC) Primary School

Diocese  
of Derby  
THE CHURCHES  
OF ENGLAND



Imagine

with all your mind

Believe

with all your heart

Achieve

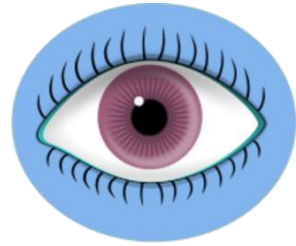
with all your might

"Let us run the race before us and  
never give up"

Hebrews 12.1

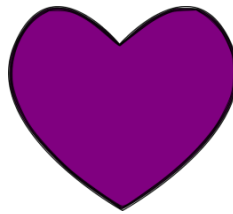
## *Gather*

(see and greet, set the atmosphere)



## *Engage*

(being thoughtful, using emotions)



## *Respond*

(doing, thinking, praying, singing, saying)



## *Leave*

(heading back into the world with a sense of purpose)

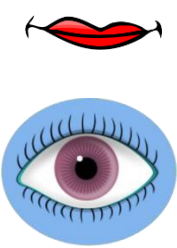









# Matlock Bath Holy Trinity Primary School

## Collective Worship Monitoring

<b>Observer:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> _____ <b>Time:</b> _____		What is good? What went well in the CW?	What could be better? How could we improve?
<b>Gather</b>  (see and greet, set the atmosphere)			
<b>Engage</b>  (being thoughtful, using emotions)			
<b>Respond</b>  (doing, thinking, praying, singing, saying)			
<b>Leave</b>  (heading back into the world with a sense of purpose)			

Please make sure that you share your observations and notes with the person/people who led the Collective Worship.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Observer) \_\_\_\_\_ (CW Leader)