



Corbridge C of E First School **Worship Policy**

The place of Worship in the life of Corbridge Church of England First School

Worship lies at the heart of our life in school. All that we do is based upon a foundation consisting of an awareness of God's love and truth in Jesus Christ. Acts of Collective Worship seek to focus this awareness in different ways every day, through prayer and praise, through silence and reflection, through reading the Bible and applying it to our lives. Each act of worship is of fifteen minutes duration.

Our aim is to promote spiritual development in this Christian context, to create a sense of belonging in a community of faith and to encourage the practice of the Christian values of forgiveness, respect, tolerance, love, joy and peace.

Acts of Collective Worship at Corbridge First School are entirely Christian in nature. At other times, there may be assemblies that demonstrate how other religions engage in worship and what other religions believe. But our daily acts of worship are of an Anglican character, and are entirely Christian in content.

How Collective Worship is organised

Acts of worship take place in the school hall or in St. Andrew's Church. Each classroom has a Holy Space where Bible stories, a cross and prayers linked to our worship theme are displayed. Interactive materials may be added to aid the children's reflection. A daily act of worship is not compulsory for children in the Foundation Stage but they are given many opportunities to reflect on the world around them in RE lessons and daily activities.

We believe it is healthy to provide a variety of worship settings, to give the children a broader experience of the different ways of engaging in Christian Worship.

Each half term, acts of worship are based on our Core Values, and, throughout the week will include a Bible reading, songs, message about Christian service and time for reflection.

Our Worship in the whole school setting helps create a special atmosphere:

- Children enter the hall generally in silence or singing.
- Music is played softly
- A cross and candle is present on the altar
- The candle is lit at the beginning of worship and an Anglican response is used
- Flowers from the school garden may be present

- Christian songs are sung reflecting both the traditional and the contemporary Christian music scene
- Times for silent prayer and reflection are included
- A Bible text is used to match the weekly theme

The school holds acts of worship in the church building for the special festivals Harvest, Christmas and Easter. Parents are encouraged to attend these events.

Weekly Over view

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><u>Whole School: 09:05</u></p> <p>This worship time introduces the weeks theme and relates this to our core values.</p> <p>It is led by pupils and staff. Anglican responses are used by the children.</p> <p>The Bible passage for the week is introduced and read by a member of staff or pupil and a relevant reflection of the message is shared.</p>	<p><u>. Whole School: 09:05</u></p> <p>This worship time allows further development of the theme/Bible passage and time for singing, drama and reflection.</p>	<p><u>Whole School: 09:05</u></p> <p>This worship time focuses on the important aspect of singing in the life of a Church school. Children have opportunities to lead and learn new worship songs and use familiar songs as a way of praising God together.</p>	<p><u>Whole School: 9.05</u></p> <p>Visitors Schedule: Members of the church community lead our school worship with a range of deliveries.</p> <p>OR</p> <p><u>Class Worship / Prayers for others</u></p> <p>This worship time is undertaken in classrooms or led in the hall by a visitor</p> <p>The children share discuss any family / community or world issues they wish to pray for.</p> <p>Reflection time is included and children share a school prayer for others.</p>	<p><u>Whole School: 2.45</u></p> <p>Children's work and achievements are celebrated within a Christian context.</p> <p>Parents are invited to attend and join in with worship.</p> <p><u>Special Class Led Worship is also timetabled</u></p> <p>To finish the week an act of worship during the afternoon consists of a class presentation on a theme, related to either their RE lessons (if appropriate), Christian values /service or a Bible story with a message. A song and a prayer are always included.</p>

Staff Involvement

The Headteacher generally leads Monday Morning Worship with pupils. Throughout the term, all members of the teaching team lead acts of worship on a rota system. All members of the school community are invited to Worship and we always begin the week together, as a school, with God. Early Years often hold their own Morning Worship within the classroom. The special festivals, such as Christmas and Easter are celebrated by all.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Corbridge C of E First School is an inclusive school and acts of worship reflect this. We incorporate a global dimension into worship and ensure visual images represent our diverse heritage. We encourage children to lead prayers in their own language if able and we choose songs from across all continents.

Our worship is drawn from the traditions and liturgy of the Anglican Communion worldwide, and we seek to be ecumenical, to include people from all the Christian denominations and all cultures. People of other faiths are also welcome to participate as they wish.

We seek to include every child in acts of Christian worship. We recognise that parents have the right to withdraw their child from any act of worship and this is respected.

September 2014