

# Christ Church Charnock Richard

## C.E. Primary School

*Inspired to learn, grow and flourish within our  
Christian family*



Collective Worship Policy

Updated September 2024



**'Inspired to learn, grow and flourish within  
our Christian family'**

***'I can do all things because Christ gives me strength' Phil 4:13***

### **Vision**

In accordance with our Mission Statement, the school team prepares children for their future by helping them achieve their full potential as part of the Christian family and as members of the wider community

### **Provision**

With Christ as our guide together we:

Develop happy, resilient and confident children who thrive in body, mind and spirit

Promote an ethos that values and celebrates that all children are special and unique with many talents

Provide high quality learning and a wide range of experiences that are challenging but fun

Create an environment that is stimulating, welcoming and purposeful for all members of the school community

Encourage children to be tolerant, caring and respectful towards others, and the world around them

### **Impact**

Underpinning our ethos are our core Christian values which were chosen by pupils, parents, staff and governors. Our Christian values are:

**Trust  
Koinonia  
Compassion  
Love  
Thankfulness  
Forgiveness  
Service**

These values are central to all we do at Christ Church Charnock Richard Church of England Primary School: through our curriculum, behaviour policy, celebrating each other's achievements and uniqueness and discussions of the wider world

We believe that our Christian ethos and aims support and prepare our children on their journey to becoming respectful, responsible citizens of the future.

### Collective Worship Policy

As a school community we believe worship to be a special act or occasion with the purpose of connecting with God. Teachers and families at school value the special dimension worship brings to church school life. Collective worship includes all members of the school community coming together to participate actively in a daily act of worship. Our worship is based around the school's Christian values; teaching of Christ and the traditions of the Church of England.

#### **Aims and purpose**

**The aims and purpose of collective worship are:**

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship God;
- To allow worshippers opportunities to express their affection to God, focusing
- Their attention on God, and use their abilities for God to enable children to consider spiritual, moral and philosophical issues;
- To enable children to explore and enrich their own faith and beliefs;
- To develop in children a feeling of Christian fellowship and a sense of community spirit; to promote a common ethos with shared Christian values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- To encourage pupils think about how Christianity has shaped British culture and heritage and influenced the lives of many people;
- To further strengthen links with the worship of Christ Church; to teach children how to worship;
- To encourage participation and response.

During their time at Christ Church we aim that children will have done/experienced:

1. Being loved, valued and respected as a child of God.
2. Praying meaningfully as an individual and as part of a larger group and experiencing an answer to prayer.
3. To have been in a place/situation where they have had an opportunity to meet God.
4. Forgiveness and a new start.
5. A feeling of a sense of belonging to the church family and church school family.
6. Awe and wonder including silence and stillness, amazement at God's creation, art and music
7. Easter- to have celebrated Holy Week and Easter so that pupils understand the deep meaning of these celebrations
8. The celebration of Christmas including taking part in a traditional Nativity play.
9. Taking part in a Christian charity/community service school project.
10. Best practice in teaching and learning in Religious Education.
11. Worship as part of a team in a variety of situations
12. Taking part in a church service
13. Visiting the local church and meeting members of the church.
14. Worshipping outdoors.
15. A Praise Party.
16. Creating a Christian banner/display/artwork .

.... Learn and know

1. God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and that this is the Trinity.
2. Lord's Prayer in either the traditional or modern format. To know that Jesus taught his disciples this prayer and it is said by Christians worldwide.
3. A variety of Bible stories, OT and NT including Creation, Abraham, Joseph, Moses, the Nativity, Easter and Pentecost, Feeding of the 5000, Healing of Bartimaeus, Zacchaeus and Calling of the Disciples.
4. Christian symbols - recognise the cross, crucifix, fish and icons.
5. Christian values and the fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
6. Liturgical responses such as
  - a. The Lord be with you. And also with you
  - b. Alleluia, Christ is Risen. He is risen indeed, alleluia.
  - c. Peace be with you. And also with you
  - d. This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God
7. How to reference a Bible and be able to talk about the contents of the Old and New Testaments and the variety of genre of writing the Bible.
8. The Grace.
9. That Christianity is a world faith.
10. A variety of hymns and worship songs.
11. The Church year, colours and rites of passage.

.... Where possible

1. Go to church on a Sunday- for example Harvest services, Education Sunday.
2. Experience a communion service
3. Visit a cathedral
4. Meet a bishop and clergy other than the parish priest.
5. Be part of decorating the church for a festival with members of the church.

### Organisation of collective worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship. This is either a whole-school worship (3 times a week), a separate infant and junior worship (once a week) or a class-based act of worship. (once a week).

These times together are seen as a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully and participate. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and lighting candles or using other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

Over the year worship is led by various groups including, the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, members of staff, pupils, local clergy, Living Waters, Ethos leaders and other leaders of Christian traditions.

Worship is based around biblical material linked to our core values and has strong Focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is intended to be stimulating and engaging and imaginative use is made of a variety of settings, (school hall; classrooms; woodland garden; playing fields)

We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Chris ·a faith and we often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. We also place a strong emphasis on our Christian

Values, thanksgiving; trust; forgiveness; compassion; koinonia, service and love. These values underpin everything we do at Christ Church Charnock Richard.

Our Friday celebration assembly offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements and successes both in and out of school. This assembly plays an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.

We invite parents to join our worship on a regular basis, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the achievements of our children.

Holy Communion service takes place once per term, with different classes taking the lead to deliver the theme. Pupils and adults can receive a blessing or communion (if confirmed).

### **Right of withdrawal**

Having chosen to be educated at a Church of England Aided Primary school, we would expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

### **Monitoring and review**

Role of the Co-ordinator -Refer to school policy

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The RE co-ordinator monitors and evaluates the standards of RE throughout school in line with school policy.

The co-ordinator will prepare an annual development plan, which fits alongside the school development plan.

### **Legal requirements for Religious Education.**

'The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England or Methodist Church Foundation. This foundation is also reflected in the curriculum and the whole life of the school community. Since the conduct of the school as a whole reflects the Church of England or Methodist Church ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and/or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate them from the religious life of the school.' Parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education. This provision and its limitations are indicated in the school prospectus. Any child who is withdrawn will be supervised by a member of staff and given appropriate alternative activities. Parents may request the governing body to provide Religious Education for their children according to the Agreed Syllabus. This can only be requested when parents cannot, with reasonable convenience, arrange for their children to attend another school where Religious Education is provided according to the Agreed Syllabus. The governing body should make provision unless the circumstances make it unreasonable to do so. If such a request for

withdrawal is made, the Head teacher should explore the reasons for the request and seek to arrive at an accommodation. It may be that only some elements of Religious Education or

Worship is objected to. Complaints about the provision of Religious Education. It is hoped that any complaint will be resolved informally by the Headteacher. There is also provision for complaints to be heard by the Committee of the Governing Body, possibly with advice from the Diocese. If the complaint is still not satisfactorily resolved then further procedures come into play and the matter will be adjudicated by a specially constituted sub-committee of the Diocesan Board of Education acting on behalf of the Bishop of the Diocese.

**Reviewed September September 2024 by Hannah Woolley (RE and Worship Lead)**