



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

### Rationale

The Trust Deed and school ethos statement inform the policy and practice of collective worship in St Paul's Primary School. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation values and ethos of the school.

Worship is central to the life and purposes of our school and will reflect the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. This will include belief in God the source of all being and life, belief in Jesus who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection and belief in the Holy Spirit who makes the presence of Jesus known in the world.

### Aim

Our aim is that our worship contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children and staff.

Worship contributes to:

- **Spiritual development** by providing an opportunity for all members of our school to join together in an act of collective worship to God, enabling them to develop their own spirituality. There are times to hear teaching from the Bible, singing and reflection, including time for prayer, stillness and silence.  
Our worship encourages participation and response through active involvement and listening. We celebrate the major Christian festivals according to the tradition of the Church of England and enhance our worship by using music, art and artefacts.
- **Moral development** by helping everyone to develop a common ethos based on Christian standards and by looking at attitudes and behaviour in the light of Jesus' teaching and example. It provides opportunities to appreciate others, each made in the image of God.
- **Social development** by demonstrating the idea of community, and by reinforcing positive attitudes including respect for all. There are opportunities for sharing successes and achievements and joining in celebration.
- **Cultural development** by drawing on Christian teaching from the Bible and other sources e.g. the lives of people from the past, from other cultures, and from contemporary society whose Christian faith has impacted on others for good. Links are also made with other cultures and religions.

### Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude (Education Reform Act 1988) and is clearly Christian, honouring Anglican belief and practice.

The act of collective worship can take place at any time of the school day and in any regular school grouping (whole school, key stage or class unit).

Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. Since this is a church school however, worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education.

### **Organisation and Leadership**

The organisation and leadership for Collective Worship are described in the Guidance document.