



Padiham Green CE Primary School

Jesus said, "Come Follow Me." Matthew 4:19

Collective Worship Policy

Review of this Policy: This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Board

Revised: September 2025

Collective Worship Mission Statement

Jesus said, "Come, follow me." Matthew 4:19

Following Jesus' example we educate and nurture all our children at Padiham Green in a loving and caring way so they reach their full potential. As a school family, we set good examples to all our learners. Using Gospel Values we guide everyone along the right path.

Love - Faith - Hope - Thankfulness - Trust - Forgiveness

1. Fundamentals

- a) In this Church of England Voluntary Controlled School, Collective worship is in conformity with the ethos statement and the rites, practices and doctrines of the Church of England. *In accordance with The School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, Section 69 (4) and Schedule 20, section 5, the Collective Worship provided in the school, in the absence of a Trust Deed, is in accordance with designation of the religious character of the school by the Secretary of State*

The school's ethos statement is:

Padiham Green wants to serve its pupils and community through their vision, 'Jesus said, Come, follow me'. Through this vision they want to show love to all of those connected to Padiham Green and their community. We aim to provide the highest quality of education delivered with fairness and love, rooted in the Christian Values of: Respect, Love, Thankfulness, Forgiveness, Faith and Hope. Ensuring that all those connected to the school have the opportunity to grow and develop spiritually, morally and academically.

- (b) Collective Worship contributes to the working out of our **Ethos Statement** through our **Mission Statement** and the **aims** and **ethos** of the school, and therefore to the Christian Education we provide. Collective Worship is derived from our school vision, 'Jesus said, "Come follow me"'. It contributes to the celebration and exploration of the values of our school allowing children to 'love, learn and shine'. In addition to this it celebrates children's individuality, right to an opinion and develops their self-worth.
- (c) Collective Worship is at the heart of our school life and the Governors see it as an essential part of all pupils' education. As such we are concerned to resource it properly and ensure that it is of the highest standard. The worship and prayer life of the school is not limited to the legally required daily acts of worship. Opportunities will be taken to use prayer at the start of the day, end of the day and before lunch. We have also written our own School prayer which the children wrote and was voted on by the whole school community. Opportunities to worship will be promoted through our school curriculum and school values. At Padiham Green, we

aim to reflect Jesus and promote Worship in all areas of school; from Forest School to going to the library.

(d) The Church of England

The Church of England forms of worship within our denomination(s) differ and these differences enable us to provide a varied range of approaches to worship whilst remaining true to our Trust Deeds. As well as drawing on our denominational heritage, we also occasionally expect to draw on the rich tapestry of practice in the world-wide Christian Church.

Whatever the approaches, we expect that pupils will be introduced to the key beliefs and aspects of the Christian faith and helped to explore them. These would include but are not limited to:

- The nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- The nature of human beings as children of God, part of his creation and, though sinful, destined for eternal life;
- Jesus as the Son of God who, through his life, death and resurrection, broke the power of evil and restored humanity's relationship with God;
- The central values of forgiveness, selfless love, redemption, goodness, compassion and charity;
- The central place of the Bible as a source of knowledge about God and Jesus and as a source of inspiration and guidance;
- The importance of prayer;
- The central symbols of Christianity;
- The cycle of the Church year.

e) Worship is an act in which someone shows reverence and adoration for God. At Padiham Green, we want our time of Collective Worship to be living and active. For children to have ownership and understanding of their worship time and to understand that it is an act of personal love and gratitude. We want children to understand that worship can happen anywhere at any time and comes from the heart.

f) Links with our local church and churches worldwide

Padiham Green has a close link with, and use of, St. Leonard's church. We will meet in Church to celebrate special events in the church calendar, such as:

- Back to school service
- Harvest
- Christingle
- Lent – Ash Wednesday
- Remembrance Day
- Leavers Service

The school will seek links with worldwide churches and Christian organisations and where appropriate representatives will be asked to lead worship, e.g. Bethany Choir, Life Church Lancashire

g) Collective Worship and assembly

The school meets together for Collective Worship but there will be times when we assemble together for other purposes, e.g. important notices and announcements. Such 'assembly' times are legally distinct from Collective Worship and parents' rights to withdraw their children do not apply.

(h) Worship in the school, while reflecting our denomination, will take into account the levels of development of pupils.

(i) The relationship to the Diocesan policy on worship in Church schools.

The provision of collective worship conforms to Diocesan policy.

(j) The relationship to Denominational Religious Education.

Elements of our Religious Education curriculum will be embedded and taught through Collective Worship, additionally. There will be a focus annually on the eight core concepts of Understanding Christianity via the Big Story (God, Creation, Fall, People of God, Incarnation, Gospel, Salvation, and Kingdom of God.) Collective Worship will enhance and support what is being taught in Religious Education but will not take away or replace any element of the Religious Education curriculum.

2. Responsibility for the policy

(a) This policy was written by the Collective Worship Lead, H Mitchell and approved by the Headteacher, L Tyrer and the school's diocesan advisor Lesley Brookbank. It was approved by the Governing Body in Autumn 2025.

(b) As Collective Worship Lead, it will be the responsibility of H Mitchell to implement and monitor the policy. As Collective Worship is such a distinctive part of life at Padiham Green, it will also be the responsibility of the whole governing body to ensure it is being implemented effectively within our school.

3. The aims of Collective Worship at Padiham Green are:

- To introduce children to Christian worship and encourage active participation.
- To provide opportunities for spiritual development, developing a sense of awe and wonder.
- To provide opportunity to develop a relationship with God.
- To provide an atmosphere of trust and develop a sense of community within the school.
- To encourage the celebration and development of our school's values, ethos and achievements.
- To enable adults and children to worship together.
- To provide opportunities for silence, reflection and prayer.
- To give the children opportunity to know and understand the cycle of the Christian year, Christian festivals and symbols.
- To encourage the children to ensure that their own speech and actions reflects their Christian beliefs and values.

4. Organisation

The current organisation of weekly Collective Worship at Padiham Green is as follows:

Monday	Whole school worship led by Headteacher L Tyrer
Tuesday	Class Worship
Wednesday	Whole school music praise
Thursday	Led by a different teacher each week
Friday	Recognition Celebration led by the Head teacher - family and friends invited. This begins with a hymn and ends with a prayer and is a time of reflection and celebration.

Collective Worship runs for approximately 15-20 minutes. We aim to create a reflective and worshipful atmosphere in both class and whole school worship. This is done by playing music, lighting a candle, using Christian symbols and experiencing silent reflective time.

5. Content and approaches

The themes for Collective Worship are planned by the Collective Worship Lead and approved by the Headteacher. Our '*Worship Warriors*' are a group of children from Class 6, who help plan and input into Collective Worship. They also review Collective Worship alongside H Mitchell and may be chosen to read prayers, scriptures or readings in special church events.

Each half term will focus on one of the school values, *love, faith, hope, respect, thankfulness and forgiveness*. The selected value will run as a theme throughout the half term and all Collective Worship will relate to this. Once every half term, Collective Worship is led by a class e.g. in Autumn 1, Year 6 will lead a worship about Respect.

Some half terms Class Worship will have a specific focus. In Autumn 1, each class will focus on one part of the big story for seven weeks. This will ensure that by the time they leave school they will have a deep understanding of each part of The Big Story. During Class Worship, children will have the opportunity to actively participate through drama, writing their own prayers and creating pieces of art. Other themes are *The Full Armour of God* and *The Fruits of the Spirit*.

Recognition Worship on a Friday allows children to reflect on the week and to celebrate their achievements. This highlights our ethos of Love, Learn and Shine as children are given their moment to shine. Often during these assemblies, non-academic achievements are celebrated, and children are given a chance to perform. During this time, there will be a song, a prayer and time to reflect.

Where possible the songs and hymns chosen for Worship will reflect the theme. These are chosen by the Collective Worship Lead alongside the *Worship Warriors*.

6. Resources

The Collective Worship resources are continually developed and monitored to reflect the importance of worship in our school. Physical resources can be found in the Red Room and all are clearly labelled. There are other resources available on the T-Drive which are accessible to all teachers. We also use *Imaginar Roots and Fruits* to support the development of Class and whole school worship, where appropriate.

7. Consultation, Management, Recording and Review

Whole school worship is reflected on and reviewed by all staff and a selection of pupils. A record of Class Worship is kept by each class teacher and will be monitored by the Collective Worship Lead. Along with the Headteacher, the Collective Worship lead will be responsible for the monitoring and effectiveness of Class Worship and will offer support where needed. These reflections will be used to inform and develop Collective Worship at Padiham Green. All planning and evaluations are kept in the Collective Worship file by the Collective Worship Leader. The Leader is also responsible for reporting to the Governors on an annual basis, outlining the planning, evaluation and future development of Collective Worship at Padiham Green.

8. Other faiths

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture. We will show tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. The acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs which will be used as a stimulus for discussion and comparison with Christian beliefs.

The legal requirements for Collective Worship in our school

(a) Legal Basis

Collective Worship in Church Schools is governed by both the 1944 and 1988 Education Acts as well as by the Trust Deed of the School. The Collective Worship provided by the school must be in accordance with the Trust Deed, or in accordance with the tradition before we became a controlled school.

(b) Daily Worship

Daily Collective Worship has to be provided for every pupil. This worship may take place in various groupings such as the whole school or classes but not faith groups. Worship may take place at any point in the school day.

(c) Worship in Church

Worship may take place in Church in addition to the daily act of Collective Worship in school.

(d) Parental rights of withdrawal

Parents may withdraw their children from Collective Worship and this provision and its limitations are indicated in the school Brochure. (*The form of words given in the Diocesan is repeated here.*)

The Worship and Religious Education provided by the school is in accordance with the Church of England (Methodist) 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 ethos, removal of pupils from Worship and or Religious Education (as parents are legally entitled to do) cannot insulate pupils from the religious life of the school.

Staff – If a member of staff wishes to be excused from attending Collective Worship on the grounds of their religious opinion or practice, they should inform governors, in writing, as to their reasons.

(e) Complaints about the provision of Collective Worship

It is hoped that any complaint will be resolved informally by the Head Teacher, in consultation with the Governors, and possibly with advice from the Diocese or District. However, if the complaint is not satisfactorily resolved, then formal 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.