

# TODDINGTON ST. GEORGE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

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*Lighting a Spark  
in every child*

## Collective Worship Policy

### Vision

Toddington St George Church of England School (Diocese of St Albans) is an inclusive Christian community in which the curriculum is underpinned by agreed values based on Christian teaching. The strategic plan, aims and policies enable every member of the school community to be valued as a child of God where they are given the opportunity to be inspired, challenged and supported in their learning and to receive committed, conscientious pastoral care. The TSG philosophy is embodied in the school vision 'Lighting a Spark in Every Child'.

### Aims

The school aims to respect the individuality and uniqueness of every pupil, not by indoctrination but by demonstrating, in word and deed, the reality and importance of the spiritual dimension of life.

Children are taught about religions in class, Collective Worship provides a unique opportunity for the school community to come together and to link religious wisdom to their daily lives, also celebrating the wonders of nature and human achievement, including their own.

### Guidelines

All pupils gather in the school hall for a Collective Worship. This daily session promotes positive attitudes towards living and establishes sound moral and spiritual values that will serve our pupils throughout their lives. It sets the tone for life at school and beyond.



Worship is of a broadly Christian nature with all Christian festivals being celebrated. Opportunities are created to include an essence of the religions and beliefs of other cultures, acknowledging the understanding of global issues that young people need in modern society.

Due reverence will always be given to beliefs, customs and artefacts of other religions in accordance with Diocesan guidelines. Collective Worship takes place in the school hall and follows a similar format, see Appendix One. A communicator is available to Hearing Impaired pupils and a Learning Support Assistant is available to visually impaired pupils/ children with other specific needs.

Children from across the school take part in Collective Worship.

There is a two year Collective Worship cycle, which focuses on a different value each month. There is then a break down of what the themes will include.

Governors are always welcome to join in Collective Worship. Other visitors are invited as appropriate e.g. parents, community leaders, inspirational visitors, charity representatives.

Collective Worship should be challenging and thought provoking, including a range of story, song, music, drama and visual stimuli.

There will always be a time for quiet reflection and/ or prayer. For many children this is a new experience and children will be taught how to pray and may choose to join in prayer.

There are links with the local parish church and children are given opportunities to worship here during their time at school.

All staff attend Collective Worship. Teachers attend on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday and Support Staff attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Collective Worship takes place at 9.10am except Thursdays (2.45pm) when we welcome 'Open the Book' a Christian Bible storytelling group and Friday for a 'well done' celebration.

## **Leaders Role**

The current lead for Collective Worship is Liz Collins, Deputy Head



Teacher. Her role is to:

- Promote Collective Worship to pupils, colleagues, parents and governors to keep up to date with current issues and resources
- To support colleagues
- Monitor the success of the Collective Worship program
- To liaise with the incumbent, or other relevant adults.

### **Home-School**

Parents and carers are kept informed about Collective Worship and the values via the regular newsletter.

### **Governance**

As a Church of England School there will be a named governor for Religious Education, Spiritual Moral Social Cultural Education and Collective Worship.

### **Continuing Professional Development**

The governors and Head teacher are very committed to Collective Worship and the support it gives children in their lives, to this end they encourage CPD for the Head/ Deputy or others delivering Collective Worship.

### **Conclusion**

The implementation of this policy will ensure children have the best start both to their school day and in developing the spiritual aspect of their lives.

Note- This policy should read in conjunction with the Religious Education Policy and the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Policy.

CW Leader – Liz Collins

Policy reviewed- September 2016

To be reviewed again September 2017



# Toddington St George Church of England School Collective Worship

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in every child*

## Routines and Expectations

### Arriving

- ✓ Children come in quietly
- ✓ Music playing and often power point slide show for children to look at
- ✓ Child helping with music stops CD
- ✓ Adult greets children verbally/ signing
- ✓ Children respond verbally/ signing

### Focus

- ✓ Adult/ child introduces theme
- ✓ During worship there will be opportunity for
  - song
  - story
  - prayer
  - interactions
  - drama
  - music
  - power point presentations

As appropriate according to theme

- ✓ Children are encouraged to reflect and think. Children are encouraged to put up their hand to make any contributions or ask questions
- ✓ All children are expected to respect opportunities for prayer/ quiet contemplation. Those who wish to may say Amen after prayer

### Leaving

- ✓ All year groups lead out at the same time. Children leave a line at a time quietly
- ✓ Helpers (Year 4) clear hall

### Daily

Monday 9.20-9.40am

Themed Collective Worship led by Head Teacher. Teachers Present

Tuesday 9.20-9.40am

Themed Collective Worship led by Head Teacher. Support staff present

Wednesday 9.20-9.40am

Celebration time: Birthdays/ Behaviour Bears/ Success Shields/ Star Box. Assembly led by Deputy Head Teacher. Teachers present

Thursday 2.45- 3.05pm

Open the Book. Bible stories retold through drama by visitors. Support Staff present

Friday 2.45-3.05pm

Celebration Assembly led by Head Teacher/ Deputy Head Teacher Teachers present

(2 children from each class are presented with a well done certificate for good work/ work shown where appropriate. Once a month Head teachers Awards are presented.)

