



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Our Vision

A place where our children, adults and community can grow and thrive rooted in Kindness, Fellowship and Confidence.

Rationale

Stanhope Barrington C.E. Primary School is a voluntary controlled CofE Primary School and is a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust (The Trust).

Our Christian vision was developed with our Academy Councillors, Senior Leaders and staff team. We spent a long time debating what our vision for our children really was and identified three key messages from the Bible: Kindness, Fellowship and Confidence.

Beyond academic and skills based achievements, we want our children and adults to go forward into the wider world to be successful citizens who contribute to the world around them in a positive way and to aspire to succeed at anything they put their minds to. We want our children to leave us being kind to others; good fellow human beings to people, animals, the environment and the world around them and for them to be confident in who they are as individuals and have the strength of character to be courageous advocates.

The three key messages are rooted in theology and are messages repeated throughout the teachings of Jesus. We want our children and adults to live a life which follows in the footsteps of Jesus and live a life to make God proud.

Our Theologically rooted vision

We sought to capture our vision in three separate references in the Bible which are simple and clear messages that everyone can access and understand.

Kindness: "Be kind to one another" Ephesians 4:32

Fellowship: "Let all that you do be done in love" 1 Corinthians 16:14

Confidence: "Do not fear I am with you" Isaiah 41:10

These references are on the front cover of the children's books and displayed around the school. Our children can talk confidently about the meaning of our theologically rooted vision.

Our Aim

It is our aim that our KFC vision is lived and breathed throughout our school by children and adults alike and that our children and adults can take the principles of KFC into their future life with confidence. We want Collective Worship to:

- Inspire awe and wonder
- Create a sense of pride and respect for God's creation
- Provide opportunities for spiritual development
- Enable space and time for reflection, contemplation, meditation & prayer
- Express our Christian vision, beliefs and values
- Explore the 'big questions' in life in a safe space
- Celebrate special times which may be Wow moments but may also be Ow moments
- Allow children and adults the opportunity to consider spirituality in terms of joy using the system of J (Jesus) O (others) and Y (yourself).
- Explore and learn more about the other world faiths and non-religious belief systems
- Understand that everyone is a spiritual being whether they have faith or none
- Understand that Christianity is a worldwide faith

Our Intent

Collective worship infuses our whole ethos and culture in school and beyond and we intend to ensure that our vision is threaded through our decision making, our daily life and conversations and actions allowing us all to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Legal Framework

This policy has regard to:

- the School Standards and Framework Act 1998;
- the school's funding agreement and articles of association;
- DfE guidance relating to collective worship;
- Church of England guidance on Collective Worship; and
- the current SIAMS Inspection Framework.

Planning for Collective Worship

Collective worship is planned by the Senior Leadership team working alongside our local clergy (Anglican and Methodist ministers) and our Foundation Academy Councillor(s).

We follow the Church of England Guidance: Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring

We focus on one element of the vision each term: Kindness in Autumn Term; Fellowship in Spring Term and Confidence in Summer Term.

Our vision is the driver for our culture and Christian ethos and is supported by a focus in each half term:

Autumn Term: Kindness

Autumn Term 1: Hope

Autumn Term 2: Peace

Spring Term: Fellowship

Spring Term 1: Justice & Equity

Spring Term 2: Diversity & Inclusion

Summer Term: Confidence

Summer Term 1: Courageous Advocacy

Summer Term 2: Resilience

Our ecumenical Open the Bible team work with the school to plan the stories for their performance in line with our Collective Worship Policy.

Entitlement

At Stanhope Barrington, we believe that every individual is entitled to opportunities for spiritual development and that this is offered to all regardless of race, gender, physical or academic ability through Collective Worship. Every effort is made to ensure that materials used are accessible for all.

Collective Worship takes place daily for all pupils, in accordance with the school's funding agreement and statutory requirements. Worship may take place as a whole school, in key stages or in other appropriate groupings.

Implementation

Collective Worship is delivered in different ways across the week and the school day. Collective Worship can occur in Learning Zones, in Key Stages and as a whole school. We deliver a structured plan for the delivery of Collective Worship:

Monday	Whole School	Collective worship on this half term's focus area using relevant Bible story.
Tuesday	EYFS & KS1 Key Stage KS2 Learning Zone	Reinforce this week's Bible Story
Wednesday	Whole School	Alternate week's Open the Bible Team/ Bible story by Teaching Team
Thursday	KS2 Key Stage EYFS & KS1 Learning Zone	Reinforce this week's value
Friday	Whole School	Reflection on this week's focus and how to take it forward beyond school life

Withdrawal

Parents/carers have the legal right to withdraw their child, wholly or partly, from Collective Worship. Parents wishing to exercise this right should make their request to the Headteacher. The school welcomes the opportunity to discuss the nature and purpose of Collective Worship with parents before withdrawal is requested. Where a pupil is withdrawn, appropriate arrangements will be made for their supervision.

As a Church of England school, our Collective Worship is distinctly Christian while being inclusive, invitational and inspiring. Pupils and adults are given opportunities to engage, reflect and respond in ways which are appropriate to them, whatever their faith or worldview.

Continuous Professional Development

Our staff are supported to continue on their own spiritual journey and their training and development in the delivery of meaningful and impactful Collective Worship is met through our partnership with the Durham & Newcastle Diocese and through our partnership with the Trust.

Special Educational Needs & Protected Characteristics

Collective Worship is inclusive and invitational. We believe that all people are created in God's image and seek to ensure that everyone is able to participate in a way that is meaningful and appropriate to them. Every effort is made to ensure that resources, materials and approaches are accessible to all.

Impact

Assessment and monitoring takes place to ensure that:

- The agreed plan is being followed
- Our legal requirement is fully met if not exceeded
- Collective Worship is invitational
- Collective Worship is inspiring and that a range of approaches is used
- Collective Worship is fully inclusive
- High standards and expectations are maintained
- Worship is led by a wide range of different people

This assessment and monitoring is carried out through:

- Feedback from parents
- Parent and Staff surveys
- Pupil voice discussion groups with teaching staff and Academy Councillors
- Formal monitoring by the Challenge and Support Partner from the Trust
- Formal monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team
- Formal monitoring by the Subject Ambassador for Collective Worship and RE
- Formal monitoring by our link advisor from the Diocese
- Feedback from staff at team meetings
- Feedback from visitors and speakers
- Feedback from our Open the Bible partners

Roles and Responsibilities

Subject Ambassador:

Collective Worship is the responsibility of Mrs Cross (Head Teacher) who is the Subject Ambassador for Collective Worship and RE. Her responsibilities include:

- Taking responsibility for planning, recording and evaluating acts of worship
- Developing and organising resources, books, artefacts, music and visual aids for Collective Worship
- Playing a lead role in managing the Collective Worship Team and co-ordinating planning
- Monitoring the impact of Collective Worship
- Preparing the Weekly Collective Worship Tables for the website to share with parents/carers
- Ensuring continuous professional development for staff
- Keeping up to date by attending courses, network meetings and liaising with the Diocese and the Trust
- Developing and maintaining excellent partnerships with local clergy and community
- Take the lead role in planning and delivering key events in the Christian calendar
- Reporting to the Academy Council
- Contributing to the School Improvement Plan and ensuring that Collective Worship is given status and focus within the school day

Academy Council:

- To approve the Collective Worship Policy annually
- To monitor delivery of Collective Worship
- Ensure legal compliance

Policy Reviewed: September 2026

Approved by Academy Council: 7th October 2026

To be reviewed: September 2027