



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Date of Policy/Reviews	Author(s)	Approved by Gov. Body	Signed	Date for Review
Mar 2017	Julie Coates	Community		Mar 2019
April 2019	Julie Coates	Community Committee in May 2019		March 2021

Collective Worship Policy

Learning Together and Living Our Christian Values

Mission Statement

Methodist Ethos is at the root of everything we do and is the foundation for our teaching and learning. We aim to work with parents and carers to provide an environment which prepares our pupils to be successful, confident, happy and caring people. We are committed to our Christian values and teaching the children how to apply them in their lives.

Our Values

Each half term we learn about one of our values through our worship and all that we do both in and out of the classrooms. We choose a Values VIP from each class every week to help us focus on practicing these values in our own lives. Staff also reward children daily for following the values.

Nature and Character of School

Originally a Methodist Primary School, which opened in September 2003 as a result of the amalgamation of Hurst Methodist Junior School and Hurst Infant School, Rosehill is now an Academy with the Wesley Trust.

The Wesley Trust is committed to the ethos statement shared by all Methodist Schools. Inspired by this, the Wesley Trust's vision demonstrates its commitment to work with people and children of all faiths and none.

The Legal Position

Whilst there are no legal requirements for schools to hold 'assemblies' the 1988 Education reform Act states that all registered pupils must 'on each school day take part in an act of collective worship'. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the daily Act of Worship. Any parent wishing to do so must put the request in writing to the Headteacher.

Roles

The responsibility for the arrangement of Collective Worship rests with the Governors in consultation with the Headteacher.

Foundation Governors have a particular responsibility because they are appointed for 'the purpose of securing, as far as is practicable that the character of the school as a voluntary school is preserved and developed, and, in particular that the school is conducted in accordance with the provisions of any trust deed relating thereto.' The Headteacher has a responsibility to ensure that all arrangements for Collective Worship are secured.

Process

This Policy was reviewed in April 2019 following the academisation of Rosehill and the development of the new motto, mission statement and church experience built upon the Methodist 'Our Calling' documentation. The policy is due for review in March 2021.

Aims

- Our Worship should be consistent with Christian Beliefs and the Methodist Ethos of the School
- We should provide opportunities for everyone to engage in or to experience worship. A variety of forms of worship should be incorporated including prayer and reflection
- Our worship should be educationally acceptable i.e. such that children are able to relate to it at their level of development
- Our worship should contribute towards the spiritual and moral development of pupils and staff
- It should help to develop a community spirit, a common ethos and a shared vision.
- It should be acceptable to the whole community
- It should be used to celebrate achievements and special occasions

Organisation and content

The normal pattern of assemblies (with worship at the heart) is as follows:

Monday	Whole School	led by the Headteacher
Tuesday	Whole School Hymn Practise	led by the Lisa Styche (Choir leader and Senior Teacher).
Wednesday	Whole School	led by the School Chaplain
Thursday	Whole School Class Assemblies or in-class collective worship	prepared by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.
Friday	Key Stage Values VIP Assemblies Assemblies	led by (KS2) Vicky Kennedy Lead Practitioner and (KS1) Anna Goodwin Assistant Head

In addition to leading Collective Worship each week the School Chaplain also takes class assemblies for the Reception and Nursery Classes throughout the year.

Each class also prepares and leads one assembly each year. Parents, Governors and other helpers are invited to these assemblies which often focus on an aspect of the curriculum.

Prayer spaces have also been set up in each year group.

Different year groups visit Hurst Methodist Church throughout the year to experience worship or mark specific festivals within a church setting (see Appendix A).

Special Assemblies are held at key times throughout the year e.g. Harvest, Easter, Leavers, Christmas etc. Children take an active part in these acts of Collective Worship, with different year groups leading on specific occasions, e.g. Year 4 take responsibility for the Easter Service. The School Chaplain is also invited to contribute. Parents, governors, and friends will be invited to these special occasions and encouraged to be active participants. Feedback is sought from those who attend as part of the evaluation process.

Reflecting the Methodist heritage an annual Agapé service is held for the whole school community and a Covenant Service for staff has been introduced.

The school uses the creative resource 'Roots and Fruits' which introduces a two year cycle of twelve Christian values (Appendix B). This is supplemented with material about key Christian seasons and festival, like Lent and Easter; British values; celebrations from other faith traditions; topical/local issues; a sense of wonder about the natural world; and an appreciation of the talents and achievements of ourselves and others.

A list of key dates of religious, national and global significance is produced every year and used as part of the planning process.

The Assistant Head and the Chaplain meet every half term to plan the worship (an example of the planning is Appendix C).

Visitors from other Christian traditions and other faiths are invited into the school for key celebrations.

Wherever possible music for singing and for mood setting should be chosen to complement the theme of the collective worship. A list of known hymns and songs, including those introduced by PopUK on display in the hall. The Year 5 Worship Leaders help to choose the music under the direction of Mrs Styche.

Arrangements for pupils who are withdrawn from assemblies

Pupils whose parents have requested that they be withdrawn from assembly will be expected to stay in the classroom with a nominated teacher for the duration of the assembly.

Purpose of worship

Acts of Worship should provide opportunities for:

- deepening pupils' understanding of the nature of God.
- personal reflection
- a consideration of innermost thoughts, feelings and beliefs
- appreciating and valuing the Methodist story and tradition
- expressions of creativity and imagination
- appreciating and valuing the feelings of others
- appreciating and valuing the beliefs of others
- establishing positive school relationships (e.g. teacher/teacher, teacher/pupil, pupil/pupil) based on tolerance, acceptance and appreciation.
- the development of a sense of belonging
- raising awareness of the hurt caused by injustice, aggression or rejection.
- discernment of values by which to live
- experiencing and valuing the environment
- an awareness of the order and pattern within the natural world
- looking for meaning and purpose
- encouraging a sense of wonder, awe and mystery in the natural world
- exploring how humans use language to convey inner meaning e.g. symbolism, allegory, analogy, myth, metaphor.
- helping children to develop an understanding of their uniqueness

Pattern of Worship

Preparation A focal point is set up at the front of the hall with a cloth to reflect the colour of the season of the church year (e.g. purple for Lent and Advent), a cross, a candle, an open Bible and other artefacts representing the theme of the day. Music plays as everyone enters the worship space.

Welcome – a candle is lit to signify the start of the worship and words are spoken which reflect the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God, for instance when focussing upon the value of courage: 'We come together now in the presence of: God the Father who is always with us, God the Son who showed us how to live courageously and God the Holy Spirit who helps us to have courage but act with humility.'

Learning – this aspect of Collective Worship is symbolised by a **window** and is when new possibilities or different perspectives are 'opened up' through the use of drama, visual images, poetry or puppetry based on Bible stories or other texts.

Reflecting – symbolised by the **mirror**, the reflecting element encourages everyone to consider how the Bible story or stimulus has resonated with or challenged them. Usually searching questions are offered as a focus for reflection. Sometimes a guided meditation is suggested or a few moments of silence.

Responding – this has the symbol of the **door** and provides an opportunity to consider how God might be challenging those present in the worship to step out and play their part in making a difference in the world.

Worship should

- a) create mood/atmosphere - this can be done through music, projected images or films, posters, use of artefacts/focal objects, lighting. A worship table with different coloured liturgical cloths, a cross, a Bible and a prayer book is set up at the front of the hall. Banners are used to decorate the hall e.g. during advent.
- b) evoke a response by asking questions, identifying with others, recalling related memories sharing memories/experiences
- c) encourage active participation by the children, especially those from Year 5 who complete the Roots and Fruits Junior Worship Leader training
 - offer own prayers/poetry
 - through dance or drama
 - making music
 - reading
 - showing/offering their own work
 - planning collective worship
 - selecting songs and prayers
 - organising collective worship e.g. preparing powerpoints with words, arranging the area, setting the mood with music
- d) encourage reflection and/or provide an opportunity to pray
 - 'Let us keep quiet and see what God is saying to us about....'
 - 'We will now keep silent so that those who want to offer a prayer to God can'
 - 'I will say a prayer if you would like to join in/listen/think about.....'
 - 'In the silence/during the music it may be helpful to think about.....'
 - 'Whilst you look at the candle flame think about.....'
- e) use variety i.e. all of the above

Monitoring and Review

The Collective Worship Policy will be reviewed every two years.

Each class will have an RE and Collective Worship Activities and Reflections floor book in which they will make regular entries.

The floor books will be monitored twice a year by Mrs Goodwin and the School Chaplain and the results shared with SMT and governors.

Twice a year feedback will be sought through pupil and staff voice, using the following prompts:

What did you like best?

What did you think was the most important part of the assembly?

What did the story/assembly mean to you?

What are you going to change or do differently because of the assembly?

The Foundation Governors will monitor the impact of the policy as part of their monitoring of the Methodist Ethos Policy. Governors are welcome to attend all types of assemblies in order to provide feedback.

Resources

In addition to the Roots and Fruits book a range of resources are available for use in Collective Worship and in developing prayer spaces (Appendix D).

Appendices

Appendix A – The Church Experience based on the Methodist 'Our Calling' documentation

Appendix B - Roots and Fruits Themes for Collective Worship

Appendix C - An example of half-termly plans for Collective Worship

Appendix D – List of Resources



Appendix A - Church Experience 2 Year Programme



		Year 1 (2018 – 2019)						
		Our Calling	Aut' 1	Aut' 2	Spr' 1	Spr' 2	Sum' 1	Sum' 2
Learning & Caring	<i>Sharing the Story</i>		Year 3 Experience Christmas at Hurst Methodist	Year 1 'Experience' Baptism at Hurst Methodist including Godly Play		Year 4 Experience Pentecost at Hurst Methodist		
		Godly Play Year 3 - Creation	Godly Play Year 4 - The Great Family	Godly Play Reception – The Flood & the Ark	Godly Play Year 2 – The Parable of the Mustard Seed	Godly Play Year 5 – The 10 Best Ways (The Ten Commandments)	Godly Play Year 6 – The Faces of Jesus	
								Gideon's Year 6
		Church Twinning (<i>Letters & Prayers</i>) – R West End, Y1 Dukinfield, Y2 Stalybridge, Y3 Hurst, Y4 Mossley, Y5 Trinity, Y6 Waterloo						
	<i>Worship</i>		Year 2 Nativity at Hurst Methodist		Year 5 Collective Worship at Hurst Methodist		Year 6 Leavers Service	
		Whole School – Education Wednesday	Whole School Christingle Service led by Year 3	Whole School & Staff Covenant Service		Whole School – AGAPE Service (Aldersgate Day)		
			Whole School Carol Service led by Year 6 & Ethos Group		Whole School Easter Service led by Year 4			
		Year 5 Worship Leaders Awards						
	<i>Service</i>	Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections		Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections	Working Together Council promoting Fairtrade	Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections	Year 6 Holiday at Home at Hurst Methodist Church (<i>& presentation of It's Your Move books</i>)	
		Whole School – Harvest Appeal Assembly	Choir at Mossley Methodist Church - Christmas		Choir at Mossley Methodist Church - Easter			

Church Experience 2 Year Programme

Year 2 (2019 – 2020)							
Our Calling	Aut' 1	Aut' 2	Spr' 1	Spr' 2	Sum' 1	Sum' 2	
<i>Sharing the Story</i>	Year 6 Experience Harvest at Hurst Methodist		Year 1 'Experience' Baptism at Hurst Methodist including Godly Play	Year 5 Experience Easter / Eucharist at Hurst Methodist	Year 4 Messy Church at Hurst Methodist		
	Godly Play Year 3 - Creation	Godly Play Year 4 - The Great Family	Godly Play Reception – The Flood & the Ark	Godly Play Year 2 – The Parable of the Mustard Seed	Godly Play Year 5 – The 10 Best Ways (The Ten Commandments)	Godly Play Year 6 – The Faces of Jesus	
							Gideon's Year 6
	Church Twinning (<i>Letters & Prayers</i>) – R West End, Y1 Dukinfield, Y2 Stalybridge, Y3 Hurst, Y4 Mossley, Y5 Trinity, Y6 Waterloo						
<i>Worship</i>		Year 2 Nativity at Hurst Methodist		Year 3 Collective Worship at Hurst Methodist		Year 6 Leavers Service	
	Whole School – Education Wednesday	Whole School Christingle Service led by Year 3	Whole School & Staff Covenant Service		Whole School – AGAPE Service (Aldersgate Day)		
		Whole School Carol Service led by Year 6 & Ethos Group		Whole School Easter Service led by Year 4			
	Year 5 Worship Leaders Awards						
<i>Service</i>	Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections		Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections	Working Together Council promoting Fairtrade	Year 5 Mossley Methodist Community Connections	Year 6 Holiday at Home (& <i>presentation of It's Your Move books</i>)	
	Whole School – Harvest Appeal Assembly	Choir at Mossley Methodist Church - Christmas		Choir at Mossley Methodist Church - Easter			

Learning & Caring

Appendix B - Roots and Fruits Themes for Collective Worship

Year A Autumn 1 Generosity

Loving others as we love ourselves (Mark 12:31)
Giving sacrificially (Luke 21:1-4)
Giving cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7)
Caring for creation (Genesis 2:15)
Giving our time (Nehemiah)
Celebrating Harvest: Giving as God gives (Psalm 65:13-19)

Autumn 2 Compassion

Noticing a need (Mark 6:34)
Being a good neighbour (Luke 10:25-37)
Putting on the right attitude (Colossians 3:12)
Having the courage to care (Exodus 2:1-10)
Coming to the rescue (Luke 15:4-6)
Celebrating Christmas: God of the unexpected (Luke 2:8-20)

Spring 1 Courage

Stepping out of your comfort zone (Exodus 3-4)
Doing the right thing, not the easy thing (Esther 4-8)
Facing a challenge (Joshua 2)
Overcoming fear (1 John 4:18)
Encouraging others (Joshua 1:9)
Celebrating Candlemas: Trusting God's promises (Luke 2:21-40)

Spring 2 Forgiveness

Wiping the slate clean (Colossians 3:13)
Turning over a new leaf (Luke 19:1-10)
Forgiving others as God has forgiven you (Matthew 18:21-35)
Beginning again (Luke 15:11-32)
Putting the past behind us (Psalm 32:1)
Celebrating Lent and Easter: When darkness turned to light (Ephesians 1:7)

Summer 1 Service

Using our talents to serve (Galatians 5:13)
Receiving as well as giving (1 Kings 17:7-16)
Giving with no strings attached (Matthew 20:28)
Looking at the heart (1 Samuel 16:1-13)
Living for others (Matthew 4:18-20)
Celebrating Pentecost: The birthday of the Church (Acts 2:44-47)

Summer 2 Respect

Remembering to pray for others (Ephesians 6:18)
Valuing difference (Luke 7:1-10)

Valuing others as we would like to be valued (Matthew 7:12)
Valuing special places (Matthew 21:12-17)
Valuing different opinions (1 Peter 2:17)
Celebrating Trinity: God's never ending love (Psalm 8:9)

Year B Autumn 1 Thankfulness

Thanking God for people who help us (Philippians 1:3)
Praising God in creation (Psalm 148)
Remembering to say thank you (Ephesians 5:20)
Giving thanks even when times are difficult (Acts 16:16-end)
Counting your blessings (1 Thessalonians 5:16)
Celebrating Harvest: Living fruitful lives (Mark 4:3-9)

Autumn 2 Trust

Knowing our friends will support us (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)
Knowing Jesus is with us in stormy times (Mark 4:35-41)
Standing on God's promises (Psalm 18:2)
Being trustworthy, not gossiping (Proverbs 11:13)
Trusting God (Isaiah 49:16)
Celebrating Advent: Believing God has a plan for our lives (Luke 1:26-38)

Spring 1 Perseverance

Running the race of life (Hebrews 12:1-2)
Keeping going against all odds (Matthew 2:13-15)
Doing the right thing (Jeremiah 38:1-13)
Meeting a personal challenge (Philippians 4:13)
Encouraging others to keep going (Acts 11:24)
Celebrating Epiphany: Pushing through (Matthew 2:1-12)

Spring 2 Justice

Treating people fairly (Micah 6:8)
Making wise decisions (Isaiah 1:17) Seeing God's love in action Matthew 20:1-16)
Seeing the whole picture (2 Corinthians 8:21)
Keeping God's rules (Exodus 20)
Celebrating Lent and Easter: Goodness is stronger than evil (John 18-19)

Summer 1 Friendship

Sticking together (Proverbs 18:24)
Encouraging one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
Supporting each other (Luke 5:17-39)
Making time for each other (Luke 10:38-42)
Learning to listen (Proverbs 17:17)
Celebrating Pentecost: Knowing God's presence (Acts 2)

Summer 2 Truthfulness

Telling the whole story (John 8:12)

Living without lies (Genesis 27)

Making the right choices (Zechariah 8:16)

Searching for the truth (Matthew 13:44-46)

Having the courage to be honest (Ephesians 4:15)

Celebrating Trinity: Seeing the truth (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Appendix C - Example of half termly planning for Collective Worship

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
22 nd April	No school	Kathy – Attendance and St George’s Day	Julie - Easter	Roots and Fruits – Friendship 1 ‘Sticking together’ in class	Values VIP Celebration & House Points
29 th April	Kathy Attendance and Ramadan	Singing Practice	Julie – Prayer 1	4T Assembly - Italy	Values VIP Celebration & House Points
6 th May	No school	Worship Leader to deliver R& F Friendship 2 ‘Encouraging one another’ to KS1 (KS2 as in class assembly)	Julie – Prayer 2	4S Assembly – Emily Pankhurst	Values VIP Celebration & House Points
13 th May SATS Christian Aid	Kathy Attendance and SEALS ‘Relationships’	Singing Practice	Julie – Christian Aid	KS2 R&F – Friendship 3 ‘Supporting each other’ in class Worship Leader to deliver R& F Friendship 4 ‘Making time for each other’ to KS1	Values VIP Celebration & House Points

20 th May	Kathy Attendance and SEALS 'Relationships'	Singing Practice	AGAPE Service to mark Aldersgate and Pentecost	Family Prayer Adventure in class (Julie to prepare)	Reception Assembly - theme to be decided
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Appendix D - Resources

Materials for use with children

The Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman & Krisztina Kállai Nagy

The Barnabas Schools' Bible by Rhona Davies

The Complete Guide to Godly Play (Volumes 1-5) by Jerome Berryman published by Living the Good News

Primary age playing cards – ideal for icebreakers/ discussion starters available from schoolwork.co.uk

A-Cross the World by Martyn Payne & Betty Pedley

Teddy Horsley books by Nicola Slee published by Church House Publishing

A Wedding Day Wish for Puddles, Puddles Lends a Paw, Puddles and the Christmas Play & Puddles and the Happy Easter Day by Gill Vaisey Also toy figures of Reverend Freddie Fisher (with robes) and Puddles.

Websites

Search for specific Bible stories or themes on www.barnabasinschools.org.uk Use the MAST Worship Portal <https://www.methodistschools.org.uk/whole-school/links-to-resources->

Messy Church www.messychurch.org.uk

Resources for a range of different age groups on Methodist Children & Youth www.childrenandyouth.org.uk

Ideas for encouraging bible reading and prayer on www.godventure.co.uk

Practical suggestions including prayer stations for children on <http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.co.uk/> and <http://www.prayerspacesinschools.com>