



Tadpole Farm Church of England Collective Worship Policy VN2

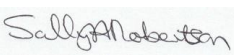
This Policy is a 4 level policy

DBAT policy where EITHER scope for academy specific elements OR separate academy policy/procedures required

This policy is to be reviewed:

Annually /every two years / every three years / other

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Date approved / adopted by Academy council	21/3/22	
Signed By:	 Ewan Young Co- Chairs of Local Board	John Spencer School Principal
Review date	March 24	
Date amended Page(s) amended	March 2022 - policy updated to reflect school vision, process and structure for worship.	
Next Review date	March 2024	

Policy Statement

At Tadpole Farm CE Primary Academy, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our vision.

The Academy Vision is a simple statement of the type of academy we are aiming to create. In some aspects it is a reflection of what we have already achieved, in others it is a statement of how we would like to develop the academy. The Academy Vision gives a focus to everything that we do and underpins all the decisions we make. Tadpole Farm CE Primary Academy is:



Love - John 13 v 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

Enquire - Matthew 7 v 7 Ask and it will be given to you, search and you will find.

Achieve - Philippians 4 v 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Partnership - Psalm 133 v 1 How very good and pleasant it is when everyone lives together in unity.

Everything is possible for one who believes (*Mark 9:23*)

Collective worship is a time when we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our world together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values, which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

Christian Values and Values Education

Our daily life at Tadpole Farm CE Academy is underpinned by 12 Christian values that are rooted within the bibles and the stories that Jesus told. These are taught and modelled by all members of the school community. They are *Compassion, Courage, Forgiveness, Friendship, Generosity, Justice, Perseverance, Respect, Service, Thankfulness, Trust and Truthfulness*. As well as Bible based reflections, we will also be looking at those of other faiths and those of none and how they live these values in their daily lives. We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

Aims of Collective Worship At Tadpole Farm CE Academy

Collective Worship is central in the life of the school, and it aims to:

- Explore the school's vision and reaffirm the 12 Christian values that underpins this
- Help establish and strengthen the school community
- Celebrate each child and their uniqueness
- Give thanks and joy for achievements within the school, local and international community
- Contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils
- Provide opportunities for the children to think and ask meaningful questions that are appropriate to their age and ability

- Reflect some of the practices and traditions of the Christian church and celebrate special occasions in the Churches year such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and the life of the community
- Provide opportunity for children and staff to worship through song, story, prayer and different interactive activities
- Support the development of children in helping them understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens in the community
- Help pupils to understand the nature and purpose of worship within our community
- Encounter worship that is inclusive and accessible for all and recognise that all children come from different faith or no faith backgrounds.
- Enable children to explore their own beliefs

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Principal. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday – Whole School worship – led by a member of SLT or an external visitor.

Tuesday - Class Worship – taking the focus for the week and relating this directly to how the focus impacts on the lives of the children

Wednesday – buddy worship - two classes join up for buddy worship.

Thursday – singing worship – using our voices to reflect on the focus for the week

Friday – Celebration Worship – reflecting on the week and celebrating those who have gone above and beyond in living the values

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship.

The assembly/worship should last approximately 20 minutes.

Planning, Content and Detail

The themes for collective worship reflect our Values focus for that term, the Church calendar, the wider cultural calendar, our school ethos and current events. We use Roots and Fruits as a basis for the planning. For each term the school focuses on a value, a christian celebration, a bible verse, a song and a whole school community project/focus. See example below. Each week a focus is introduced in Monday worship and this is explored further during class and buddy worship where the theme is explored further and made meaningful to them and their lives. The worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music for the week. This may be played by a child; something the children come in singing to to become part of something greater than ourselves, it may be a reflective piece of music. Worship begins by inviting God to join the worship. The worship is based around a biblical story or event to explore an understanding about a weekly topic.

The children are regularly involved in the worship and the Prayer and worship team often take a role in leading and planning worship. The worship finishes with a reflection or prayer written by members of the school community. The children then lead out as the music is played.



Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

Planning is kept on a shared drive and an evaluation, by both staff and children, of the term's worship is recorded at the end of each term. We use the evaluation to inform the next term's planning. We record our worship in a whole school floor book to track the learning journey for each theme. Evidence can be collected in a number of forms such as quotes following discussions, examples of activities from each class, prayers the children have written and pictures/freeze frames of the children acting out parts of the story. In the school hall and around the school, display boards are used to demonstrate the focus for each term, special visitors and whole school projects such as a 'generositree'. Training is encouraged and available for those who wish to lead acts of worship. We take part in the Christian Distinctiveness and SIAMS network run by the Diocese of British Academy Trust. We also take part in the Prayer space for school's meetings.

Prayer and Worship team

The school has a prayer and worship team that is made from children across Key Stage 2. The group meets regularly to share their ideas for future planning, write prayers, help set up and lead the school's prayer space and meet with external visitors. They help lead worship across the school and often help write the prayers and reflection.

Visits and visitors

As part of the curriculum, we ensure that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship.

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise.

Parents/Governors/Diocesan Liaison and Local Community Issues

Children may be withdrawn from R.E. lessons at the wish of their parents. The Principal will

ensure that suitable provision is made for such pupils. Parents are invited to join collective worship at different times throughout the year.

Equal Opportunities and special needs issues

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of the content of collective worship.