



Barwell C of E Academy Collective Worship 2017-2018

We want happy, confident, successful children.

We want all of our children to be **happy**, **confident** and **successful**. As a **Church of England School** we endeavour to provide a caring **Christian** environment in which our school community are valued and respected. We believe that part of helping children and adults on their journey to becoming the **best version of themselves** includes developing their knowledge and understanding of their own faith, beliefs and **spirituality** through daily acts of Collective Worship and the teaching and exploration of our **Christian** and **British Values**. This will enable children (and adults) to progress in their **social**, **moral**, **spiritual** and **cultural** development by providing them with the chance to learn, **reflect**, worship, question and share amongst their peers and build upon their own sense of **character** within a safe and secure environment. In doing so, opportunities are made for considering some of the main festivals celebrated by a range of religions, and how the beliefs and faith of others can compare to Christianity.

Our ambitious target for Collective Worship this academic year is: **The majority of learners will understand the meaning of the Holy Trinity, recognising this and talking about it with an impressive degree of understanding.**

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of providing a timetabled daily act of collective worship across the whole school is to:

- Provide opportunities to come together as children and adults to learn, think, reflect, celebrate, worship and pray within a safe and secure Christian environment
- Create a sense of belonging to the family of God and a caring school community
- Develop our school community's understanding that we are part of a local, national and global community and why and how Christian care and concern can be shown
- Enable the opportunity to explore spirituality and character alongside developing moral, social and cultural awareness.
- Include families and friends (as part of our wider school community) on various occasions
- Welcome and invite members of our linked St Mary's Parish Church and other local churches and Christian groups into our school
- Give all engaging with the act of worship something to take away to consider, reflect upon and apply within their own life.

Planning and Format of Delivery:

Across the week, our daily collective worship takes place in a variety of forms, however all acts of worship will include the following elements in order:

- Music of the week linked to the theme to welcome
- A whole school 'gathering' prayer, recited together by children and adults as we light the candle:
*We meet in the name of God:
God the Father,
God the Son,
God the Holy Spirit:
God is One.*
- The word – a story, anecdote, drama, electronic presentation, celebration, singing practice etc. linked to the theme of the week. The person leading the worship will also make any links to our Christian and/or British Values where relevant at this point.
- A short Biblical reference/link relevant to the theme of the week
- A hymn or spiritual song chosen for the act of worship from a list provided by our music leader
- A time to think and reflect
- A 'sending' prayer spoken by the worship leader and/or child /children who are leading prayers
- The candle is extinguished at the end of the act of worship
- Children chosen from each year group to fill in an evaluation in their year group's Collective Worship Comment Book for their year group as school is dismissed. On Friday mornings, there is book for parents/carers to complete after our celebration of character has taken place.
- A parting thought for consideration/reflection when leaving the hall in silence as:
- The music of the week is played to dismiss

Termly themes for worship, broken down into themes of the week, are determined by the Diocese and all collective worship sessions refer to this. The collective worship leader takes these themes and allocates the delivery of each theme to staff (and children) on a circulated rota across the term. These themes for collective worship are followed by all who lead collective worship and suggestions for content delivery is given within guidance from Diocesan recommendations.

The purpose and theme of the worship is made clear to children and adults, with artefacts, visual aids and/or other items being included, where appropriate.

Within each act of worship, there is a balance between music, speech and silence, allowing for worship, praise and reflection for spiritual development. All worshippers are actively involved as much as possible, through prayer and song, questions and answers, talk partners and drama.

The subject content within collective worship is selected appropriate to the maturity and experience of our children, with resources to support delivery being chosen by worship leaders from the internet, within school and/or via suggestions for resource sourcing from the Diocese which are circulated on the collective worship rota.

Collective Worship is delivered across the school each week as follows:

Monday: At 9.00-9.15am, our whole school act of collective worship is led by our head teacher, Victoria Newman with all teachers in attendance.

Tuesday: At 9.00-9.15am, the school meet to praise, worship and reflect through song led by our Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs Stewart, with all teachers in attendance and our head teacher when possible.

Wednesday: At 9.00-9.15am, our whole school act of collective worship is led by our Open The Book teams made up of friends from St Mary's Parish Church, with all teachers in attendance and our head teacher when possible.

Thursday: At 9.00-9.15am, our whole school act of collective worship is led by class teachers or children on a termly rota with all teachers in attendance and our head teacher when possible.

Friday: At 9.00-9.20am, we celebrate the great character that has been shown (including our Christian Values) across the school and invite parents/carers/friends of those receiving character commendations into school to share in the celebration. This is led by the head teacher, deputy head or collective worship leader with all teachers in attendance to award certificates to children within their classes and share any other news/events.

Friday (Thoughtful Friday): At 3.00-3.15pm, all classes (with their teacher and learning support assistants) engage in an act of collective worship to close the week, known as Thoughtful Friday. This opens with the lights being dimmed as a candle is lit and our school's gathering prayer is shared as is in our morning acts of worship. Voluntary discussion centred on the focus Christian Value is shared and a prayer is said at the end. This is a further opportunity to develop interpretation of spirituality and the focus of this is the half termly Christian Value. By placing this act at the end of the week, the whole school enters the weekend in a positive, uplifted, calm mood. This time for reflection also provides an excellent opportunity to develop 'the child's voice'.

N.B. As a school, we acknowledge that occasionally, the format of our daily act of worship may occasionally be altered to accommodate changes within the school day.

In addition to this, Reverend Philip Watson of St Mary's Parish Church, Barwell regularly visits to lead collective worship on certain dates of the Anglican Calendar (for example, Saints' days, Ash Wednesday, Pentecost, Advent) and invites are also made to the village's Methodist reverend to lead collective worship. All members of the clergy follow the schools thematic planning, as recommended by the Diocese. On Wednesdays, our church friends from St Mary's Parish Church lead collective worship following the 'Open the Book' scheme.

At key times of the Christian Calendar (for example, Easter) children and staff attend St Mary's Parish Church for worship led by Reverend Philip Watson with our children and staff supporting this.

Every term, children within given year groups are also allocated an act of worship to plan and deliver to the rest of the school.

At certain points in the school year special assemblies showcase the work children have completed relating to special festivals or events in the Christian calendar, for example Harvest and the Nativity.

Music is an important element of our collective worship. The music of the week is chosen weekly by staff to support and reflect their allocated theme of the week, and introduces and ends each act of collective worship. The hymn or spiritual song, which children and staff sing for praise and reflection, is chosen by the worship leader(s) to support their allocated theme from a selection of hymns suggested by our music leader (deputy head). Singing is usually accompanied by recorded music on CD and at times, the piano may be played to support.

Before collective worship begins, our assembly crew/collective worship monitors (made up of a group of year 6 children) sets up our worship table (school altar). A cloth in the colour which represents the current season of the Anglican Christian Calendar is placed on this. A candle is then placed on the table which is lit to open each act of collective worship as the gathering prayer is said together. A small Christian cross and a Bible are also displayed beside the lit candle. These three elements underline the nature of the triune God – Father (the word through the Bible), Son (the cross), and the Holy Spirit (the candle).

A large Christian cross, a mural of our Christian Values (smaller ones are found in each room across the school) and the Lord's Prayer are permanently displayed on the wall of our hall in which collective worship takes place.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The collective worship leader monitors the effectiveness of collective worship each term and reports to the head teacher and Reverend Philip (as Collective Worship governor). This ensures a range of worship types are delivered. All delivering collective worship complete a planning sheet (see Appendix 1).

The delivery of collective worship is also evaluated by staff peers selected by the worship leader (see Appendix 2) and both forms are sent electronically to the collective worship leader.



Each year group (see Appendix 3) and parents/carers have a Collective Worship Comment Book in which children are invited following worship to note their responses.

The collective worship leader monitors the content of these notebooks, in addition to plans and monitoring forms, half termly, and where appropriate, makes suggestions for adjustments in collective worship practice.



Right to Withdraw:

The Education Reform Act 1996 requires that every maintained school include provision for a daily act of collective worship. The rights of parents to withdraw their children from the act of collective worship forms an integral part of the 1996 Education Reform Act. Any parent wishing to withdraw their child may do so, in consultation with the head teacher. In this instance alternative provision is made.

Appendix 1: Planning Grid

 Barwell Collective Worship – Daily Planning Grid 	
Collective Worship led by:	
Date:	
Weekly Theme of Worship:	
Objectives Covered:	
Music of the Week:	
Light the candle and recite the 'Gathering Prayer'	<i>We meet in the name of God: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit: God is one.</i>
Objectives taken from the Collective Worship Rota covered in this session:	
The Word: (a story, anecdote, drama, electronic presentation, celebration, singing in singing practice etc. linked to the theme of the week)	
Link to current Christian Value:	
Link to British Values:	
Short Biblical reference/link to the Bible:	
Hymn chosen for this collective worship:	
A quiet time for children to think and reflect upon what they have heard and learnt today (a question could be asked to initiate this)	
A 'Sending Prayer' delivered by CW leader or child. (If prayer written and delivered by children, please send separately as an electronic version to Becca)	
Extinguish candle	
Choose a child from each year group to fill in an evaluation in the Collective Worship Comment Book for their year group as you dismiss the school	
'Parting Thought' for children to consider/reflect upon as leaving the hall in silence to the Music of the Week:	

Appendix 2: Monitoring Grid

 Barwell Collective Worship – Monitoring 	
Collective Worship led by:	Person monitoring Collective Worship:
Date:	Weekly theme of worship:
Has the Collective Worship leader followed the planning structure? i.e. lit the candle with gathering prayer, The Word (including any link to Christian Values and British Values), Biblical reference, hymn, reflection time, sending prayer, candle extinguishing, parting thought?	Lighting of the candle with Gathering Prayer
	The Word
	Christian Value Link
	British Values Link
	Biblical reference
	Hymn
	Reflection time
	Sending prayer
	Extinguishing of candle
	Collective Worship books given out
	Parting thought
Strengths of Collective Worship:	
Even Better If:	
Any additional comments about this collective worship:	

Apoendix 3: Children's Year Group Feedback Book Form



Barwell Collective Worship – Children's Feedback



Date: _____	Theme of Collective Worship: _____
Name of person/group of people that led Collective Worship: _____ _____	Name of child reviewing Collective Worship: _____ Class: _____
This Half Term's Christian Value:	
What was today's Collective Worship about?	_____ _____ _____
What did you learn from today's Collective Worship?	_____ _____ _____
What did you enjoy?	_____ _____ _____
What do you think could have been better?	_____ _____ _____