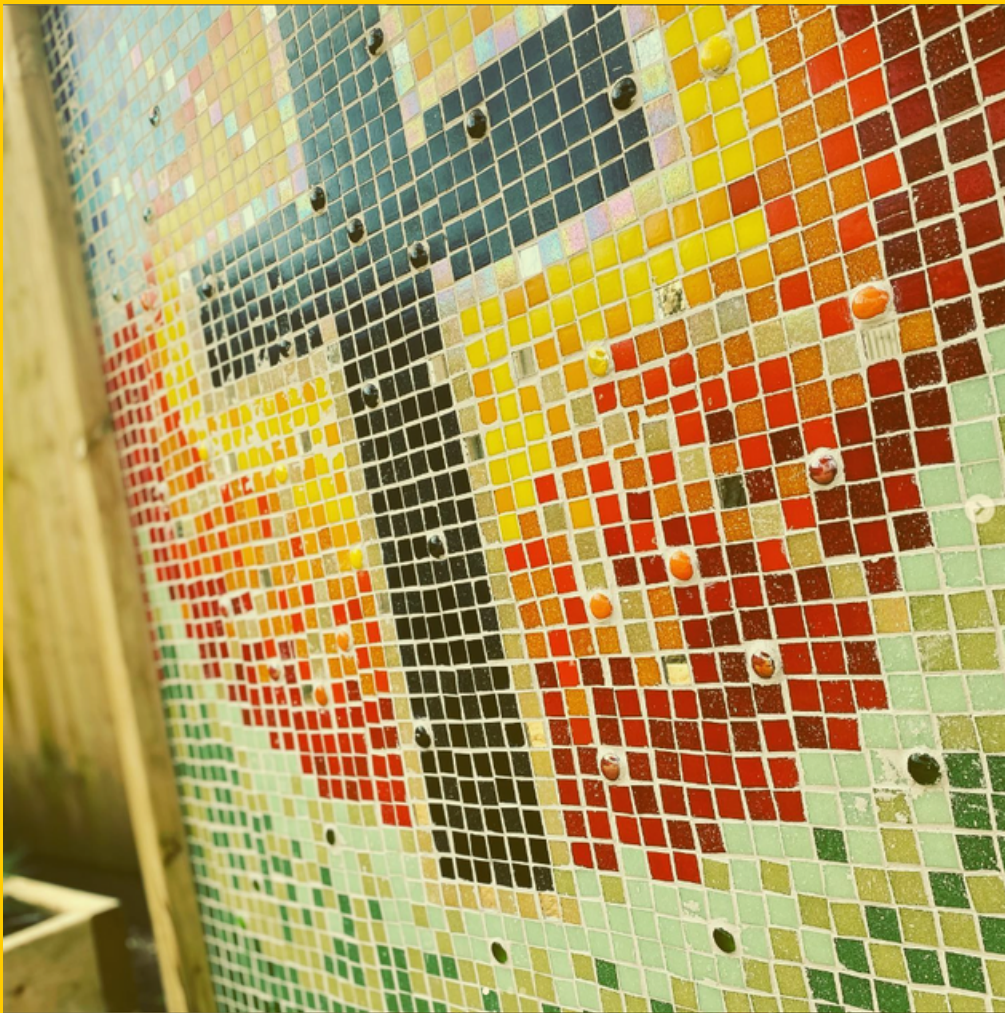


OLVESTON CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

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1. OUR GOAL

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” Colossians 3:16.

At Olveston CEVC Primary School we aim to provide collective worship which is consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England. Collective worship is provided daily.

Collective Worship is the heartbeat of the school day; it is where the community can join together, pause, reflect and have the opportunity to encounter the teachings of Jesus. At Olveston collective worship is designed to be inclusive, invitational and inspirational.

THROUGH COLLECTIVE WORSHIP WE AIM TO ...

- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable all pupils and adults to experience Christian worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection.
- Helps pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their own belief structures.
- Enables pupils, as well as adults, to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to a shared ownership and responsibility for worship our school.
- Connect with the local church community partnerships to create a sense of connection between the church and school.

WHAT IS COLLECTIVE WORSHIP? 2

Legislation requires schools, including Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled schools, to conduct daily acts of Collective Worship. In Church schools the requirement to reflect the Anglican status of the school is expressed in its trust deed, which liberates those leading collective worship to build on the rich, lived diversity of Anglican tradition and identity. It is the responsibility of the governors along with the headteacher to ensure the requirements of the trust deed are adhered to.

CONFSSIONAL

The dictionary explains that when you confess, you are admitting or declaring something to someone else. Christians will confess their faith and their believe in God. This may be done through public declaration, singing, prayer or liturgy or personally through their actions or decisions. Therefore, confessional language will be anything that declares or confesses a faith in God.

e.g. I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

NON- CONFSSIONAL

Non-confessional language will be any word, song or response that does not require the person saying it to profess a faith they may not have.

It may explain a truth about the Christian faith or tradition but does not include any element of personal declaration of faith. Our school and acts of collective worship are non-confessional to allow them to be truly invitational and inclusive of all faiths and none. For example there is always an invitation to pray as opposed to an expectation.

Worship should provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. The metaphor of 'warm fires and open doors' captures this idea. The warmth of the fire derives from the clarity and authenticity of the Christian message at its heart. There is no value to an encounter with a watered down, lowest common denominator version of faith. Importantly the door is open, all are welcome to come in and sit as near or as far away from the fire as they feel comfortable. Pupils and adults should always only be invited to pray if they wish to do so and should be invited to pray in their own way. Prayer should always be accompanied by the option to reflect.
(CEEOW guidance document May 21)

INCLUSIVE, INVITATIONAL, AND INSPIRATIONAL

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INCLUSIVE

We offer children and adults the opportunity, without compulsion, to discuss and reflect on their own spirituality. It is about journeying together.

INVITATIONAL

We offer everyone the opportunity to engage in collective worship, whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity. As an inclusive Church school it is important that we find balance and harmony. This is the key to a flourishing school where all know they are welcomed and included for who they are.

Our distinctive Christian vision demonstrates to all looking in, that we are a Church of England school, where the driver for all we do is the example of Jesus. This vision does not ask those who attend the school or teach there to profess a faith in Christianity that they may not have. It simply says that our school is built on Christian values that guide our behaviour and decisions – these are great life values to live by to help us to flourish individually and together.

INSPIRATIONAL

Worship is creative and should be inspiring to all, through music, arts, liturgy, stories and reflection time. Our worship reflects our school and our community. It represents diversity with the aim to develop children's appreciation of the variety of traditions, globally, in the Anglican Church. This includes the Church year, types of prayer, colours of the altar cloth and song.

Our strong links with the church embody this. The weekly ViP (values in Practice) and open the book invite different voices to share their stories of worship. The children use reflection journals to engage deeply in worship. Leaders seek the views of children to help inform future collective worship sessions. Most importantly children plan and deliver worship – which is always inspirational.

**LET EVERYTHING WE DO,
BE DONE WITH LOVE
AS WE GROW TOGETHER
IN GOD'S LOVE**

G.E.R.S

Patterns of collective worship

We often talk about patterns and collective worship in schools. Our pattern of worship is: gathering, engaging, responding and sending.

This is known as the school liturgy for collective worship.

Gathering

Marking the start of the worship and drawing everyone together. This may include a specific form of welcome, a regular prayer, a call and response, specific actions such as lighting a candle etc.

Engaging

Communicating the message of the worship and stimulating thinking, for example telling and explaining a bible story, investigating a particular theme, talking about a current topical issue etc.

Responding

Giving opportunity for individual thought about and response to the message / challenge. This may include pupils sharing their ideas, a time of silent and / or guided reflection, prayers in response to the theme etc.

Sending

Marking the end of the worship and sending everyone out with purpose. This may include a challenge to apply what they have learnt from the theme, a closing prayer, a call and response, specific actions such as extinguishing the candle etc.

EXAMPLES OF WORSHIP CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

OUR WORSHIP WEEK

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Overview	VIP	Open the Book	Class Worship	Singing	Celebration
What we do	Our Values in Practice worship is lead by local faith leaders who share stories and experiences to exemplify our values	Members of local church community share stories from the bible through performace.	Class spend time together to worship and reflect in a more personal way.	The whole school come together to perform songs and hymns.	As a school we celebrate the children and their achievements. Head teacher awards are linked to the school values.

WHAT DOES A CLASS WORSHIP LOOK LIKE

Gathering

*Display cube 1 – gathering together. Along with this show slide 2 and complete greeting and response. We light this candle to show that, God's light shines on us every day.

Engaging

*Display cube 2 – learning together.

*Slide 3 – Look at the first slide with the word 'values' displayed. What are values?

*Slide 4 – Explain that they are beliefs that motivate people to act in a certain way. Religions have values, a country can hold values (displayed on board) and each individual person holds their own set of values.

*Slide 5 – As a Christian school, we hold a set of Christian values. Name that value! Can children name all our school values, do they recognise a Christian story linked to these values?

Responding

*Display cube 3 – reflecting and responding together.

*Slide 6 – How will you demonstrate our school values this year? Discuss ideas. Children choose a value, or more if they wish to create something to be displayed in the hall. This can be done however they wish – a piece of art, a poem or written. It would be great to have a range to display.

Sending Out

*Display cube 4 – leaving together.

*Slide 10 – Blessing. Dear God, Help me this year to model our school values and help me in finding my own set of values to live by. Amen.

A COPY THE PRESENTATION THAT ACCOMPANIES THIS WORSHIP PLAN IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

**'YOUR ROOTS WILL GROW
DOWN INTO GOD'S LOVE
AND KEEP YOU STRONG'**

EPHESIANS 3:17

**ROOTED
IN LOVE**

