



Governor Lead: Rev Judith Allford
Nominated Lead Member of Staff: Vicki Chiverton
Next Review Date: September 2026



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

St Jude's C of E Schools Federation is made up of a Voluntary Aided Church of England Infant and Junior school and, as such, has a Christian tradition and ethos. Our collective worship, both implicitly and explicitly, demonstrates our school vision:

Inspired by St Jude, we pursue excellence in education, kindness in the community and courage through faith

and our Christian values of:

Hope, Compassion, Forgiveness, Perseverance Respect, and Responsibility

At St Jude's C of E Schools Federation, we consider collective worship to be an important part of the school day; an opportunity to reflect and develop the school's distinctive Christian character but also an opportunity to contribute to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of pupils and staff.

Aims of our acts of collective worship:

- a) To be a daily expression of our school's Christian vision.
- b) To be inclusive, invitational and inspiring for all pupils, staff and parents and visitors.
- c) To offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- d) To enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music.
- e) To help 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 understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language.
- f) To enable pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- g) To encourage local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

Collective worship includes the educational opportunities for:

- a) the whole community to celebrate;
- b) sharing and experiencing differences;
- c) developing a culture of learning;
- d) building a sense of group identity;
- e) encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
- f) a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- g) learning how to behave in a large social group;
- h) exploring feelings and emotions;
- i) learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- j) learning how to respond to a performance;
- k) making visible the school’s leadership;
- l) developing inner awareness.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of collective worship which is in line with the school’s Trust Deed and Foundation. The school meets this requirement.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship. It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. We ask parents to contact the Headteacher to discuss their views as it may be that an understanding can be reached about shared faith.

Planning of Collective Worship

Those leading collective worship plan the themes for the year. This is saved on our shared drive. This can draw from a range of sources including festivals, celebrations and important dates, as well as themes related to our vision and values.

Pupils are involved in leading Collective Worship. The Worship Ambassadors work with the Christian Distinctiveness Committee (Governors) to lead Collective Worship.

The exact day that the style of worship takes place may vary depending on the activities in the school and availability of visitors, however this is the intended pattern for collective worship;

	Infant	Junior
Monday	Revd Canon Judith Allford/ Rev Jeremy Brown	Diocese materials led by headteacher
Tuesday	Diocese materials led by headteacher	Exploring our Vision and Values through books
Wednesday	Exploring our Vision and Values through books	Worship through song
Thursday	Worship through song	Revd Canon Judith Allford / Rev Jeremy Brown
Friday	Celebration of achievements	Celebration of achievements

Festival and celebrations in the church

Church Services

Each year, our whole school community goes to our church for special services. These services are to mark special seasons, festivals and events in the life of the school and church community, such as Harvest, Christmas, Easter and our end of year Leavers' Service (KS1). The school community and church work together to mark these very special occasions to gather together in worship and celebration. Children lead some parts of the service, while school staff and Revd Canon Judith Allford lead other parts. The aim is to create an engaging, interactive time for the school community to reflect, pray and share time together in God's house.

Prayer

We have an **invitational** prayer time at the end of each Collective Worship and children are regularly given the opportunity to lead this, often in the format of TSP (thank you, sorry, please).

Prayer Space

We have a designated shared prayer space. Children are invited to use this space and have the opportunity to reflect on themes from Collective Worship. Activities are provided which link to the week's theme. Children also have the opportunity to have the space to be reflective and spiritual.

Class Prayers

Each class has a short prayer time before lunch and at home time, to encourage reflection on the day and appreciation of all we have.

Visitors

We welcome visitors to our collective worship. Some visitors are invited to share their experiences, linked to the theme of the collective worship. Other visitors present a whole collective worship on a theme requested by the headteacher.

Visitors should understand that, in schools, **E** is for **Education** not **Evangelism** and avoid proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause without the prior permission of the headteacher.

Governors

We welcome Governors' attendance at our worship at any time.

Monitoring and Reviewing

It is the role of the Governors to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. The content and brief evaluation by the person monitoring the worship are recorded in a folder, which is kept in Governor Hub.

The pupil Worship Ambassadors regularly evaluate and seek feedback from other children. This committee meets with Mrs Austin, Mrs Chiverton or Mrs Ashplant to discuss this.

External Inspection

Our schools will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection.