

 <p>Offley Endowed Primary School & Nursery</p>	<h1 style="text-align: center;">Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery</h1>	<p>Reviewed: Sept 2025</p> <p>Next Review: Sep 2027</p>
<p>Policy Title:</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Collective Worship Policy and Medium Term Plan</h2>	<p>Users: Staff, Governors, Parents</p>

Our Vision

At Offley Endowed Primary School and Nursery we strive to provide a healthy, safe, caring and challenging learning environment where everyone is valued and each member of our school is able to 'Be All You Can Be': with God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26).

Holding centrally our belief that with God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26), we aim to:

- Work in partnership with children, parents, carers and the wider community.
- Engage all children in their learning, following our Christian values and help them to prepare for their future.
- Achieve high standards of discipline based in the Christian value of love, forgiveness and reconciliation, which are firm but fair.
- Promote our children's understanding of their own and other spiritual, moral and social development.
- Enable the children to develop and live by a set of Christian values helping them to become good citizens in a multicultural society.
- Create and maintain a secure and stimulating learning environment in an atmosphere of care, trust and mutual respect.
- Deliver a curriculum that offers rich, varied and challenging opportunities encouraging an enquiring mind, creativity and academic achievement.

These aims are underpinned by our distinctive Christian character and values especially:

Generosity, Compassion, Courage, Forgiveness, Friendship, Respect, Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Justice, Service and Truthfulness.

Approved and Adopted by The Governing body



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INTENT

Through collective worship in our school we aim to:

- Provide an experience of worship that will allow children to respond to the presence, power and peace of God.
- Introduce children to Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the church year.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying and introduce children to some well-known Christian prayers, e.g. Lord's Prayer.
- Strengthen and support the school community giving expression to and reaffirming the Christian values of the school.
- Celebrate the gifts that each child brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God.
- Encourage children to reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and to respond to the wonder and mystery of the world around them.
- Foster a concern for others within the school and wider world.
- Foster an appreciation of the created world and an awareness of our responsibility for it.

Implementation and Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. Since this is a church school however, worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education.

The Daily Act of Worship

Collective Worship is held at 11:00 every day and lasts for between fifteen and thirty minutes. Every week we hold four whole school acts of worship, emphasising the unity of the school, and one class-based act of worship led by class teachers and tailored more to the specific needs of different age groups. Our local Church of England vicar leads an act of worship at least once every other week. We also invite other church leaders into school such as Jo White from the Baptist church in Stopsley. Children are also encouraged to lead all or part of the worship or may contribute with readings or prayers.

Worship is held in the hall, where there is a wooden cross as a focal point and candles are lit to represent the Trinity at the start of each worship. We have runners on the worship table in liturgical colours (see appendix), mirroring the church year. Music is played as children enter and leave the hall to encourage an atmosphere of reflection. The Lord's Prayer is recited



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through song regularly, along with our school prayer. A wide range of approaches are used in worship, including drama, discussion, reflection, reading, singing and prayer.

The children also attend at four or five services in Church each year: a carol service, Harvest Festival, a service to celebrate Easter, a service at the end of our 'walk to Lilley' and a leavers assembly in July each year. These are led by the local vicar. We have also begun Easter and Christmas activity days in the local church in Offley, Mary Magdalene.

Themes

We have adopted twelve Christian values that form the basis of our worship and wider school life.

Each value is looked at for a term and all worship is planned around this value, as well as being promoted throughout the school. Care is taken to ensure that understanding of each value is rooted in the Bible and the example of Jesus.

We have added in significant dates in the Christian year and days of particular importance such as Remembrance Day. We are also able to respond to local, national or world events (or a need from the children), that merit reflection and prayers. Monday's collective worship led by the Headteacher is a Christian reflection of a current affairs topic.

Classes all have a special worship area that includes age appropriate Bibles and prayer books as well as a worship cloth, candle and other helpful resources and artefacts.

Role of the Co-ordinator

The co-ordinator is responsible for supporting staff in their planning of worship where necessary. The co-ordinator is also responsible for organising and replenishing resources and for monitoring all aspects of worship within the school.

Evaluation of Worship

The co-ordinator monitors whole school and class acts of worship throughout the year, alongside the governors. From time to time parents and pupils are asked for their opinions through a questionnaire, in discussion groups and their views are taken into account in future planning of worship.

Review

The policy will be reviewed in 2027.

Updated by: T Edwards, Sept 2025.



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Appendix

Liturgical colours

White:

- From Christmas Day to the Presentation at the Temple (2nd Feb)
- From Easter Day to the eve of Pentecost.

Red:

- Holy week; Pentecost; All Saint's Day (1st Nov) to the beginning of Advent.

Purple:

- Advent; Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday

Green:

- From the Presentation (2nd Feb) to Shrove Tuesday; from Pentecost to All Saint's Eve (31st Oct)

In chronological order:

White 25th Dec – 2nd Feb

Green 2nd Feb – Shrove Tuesday

Purple Ash Wednesday – Palm Sunday (Lent)

Red Holy Week

White Easter Day – Pentecost

Red Pentecost

Green Pentecost – 31st Oct

Red 1st November – Advent

Purple Advent – 24th December



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Our Christian Values is 'Be all you can be : with God, all things are possible'. We have worship themes to explore and reflect upon throughout the year. This term we start with the theme of Thankfulness. Our Christmas service is held annually in December at Mary Magdalene Church in Offley.

Here is our outline for the year on Christian Themes and other areas which we will explore

Schedule for 2021-2022

Term	Value	Events	Notes
Autumn 1	Thankfulness	Harvest service in Church / Food bank offering	
Autumn 2	Trust	All saints day / Xmas Nativity / Christmas service in church and a Christmas activity workshop in Church	Anti-bullying week/celebrating difference / PHASE workshop-Christmas unwrapped / Luton Airport charity sing
Spring 1	Perseverance		Risk taking/ dreams and goals
Spring 2	Justice	Lent and Easter	Easter service / Easter workshops in Church
Summer 1	Service	Pentecost	Walk to Lilley Church service
Summer 2	Truthfulness	Trinity	End of year leavers service in Church

We will use the 'Roots and Fruits' guide for our worship sessions and always start with a message and end with prayers. Where possible, a song will be sung in collective worship.



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This is an example of our Collective Worship Planner

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Worship Review
1	S Council / House Captains / Collective Worship Committee / Class Rules, School rules, class charter / British Values					
2	TE - Introduce thankfulness Current affairs c/w Prayer and colours of day song	HW – Thanking God for people who help us Prayer and song	Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	TE
3	TE-current affairs – thanks to God. Prayer and song	HW – Living fruitful lives And Phase workshop for Yr6	Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	Yr 6
4	TE-current affairs – thanks to God. Prayer and song		Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	Yr 5
5	Harvest Festival Service in Church	HW – Praising God in creation. Thanking God for nature	Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	Yr 4
6	TE-current affairs – thanks to God. Prayer and song	HW – giving thanks even when times are difficult	Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	Yr 3
7	TE-current affairs – thanks to God. Prayer and song	HW – counting your blessings	Key Stage collective worship Prayer and song	Rev Katy	TE - Celebration assembly 'We shall go out with joy!'	Yr 2
HALF TERM HOLIDAY						

Please make sure that your class completes their review and puts in the folder in the staffroom.

Please ensure the candle is lit and place on worship table.