

Rossington St Michael's C of E Primary School

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

2026-2027



Date of Policy: September 2026

Date of Review: September 2027

At Rossington St Michael's CE Primary School, we believe that all are welcome, accepted, achieve and loved. Our Collective Worship policy embodies our Christian vision and underpins the spiritual life of our school community.

1. Ethos Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, Rossington St Michael's CE Primary School will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the local parish and the Diocese of Sheffield.

We aim to serve our community by offering a high-quality education within the context of Christian belief and practice. The school encourages understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experiences it offers to all pupils.

2. The Nature of Collective Worship

Worship in our Church of England school is an essential expression of our Christian ethos. We understand Collective Worship as a shared opportunity to:

- Give glory, honour, praise, and thanks to God
- Deepen our relationship with God through Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit
- Foster reflection on moral, spiritual, and social themes
- Create a sense of belonging and community

Worship may include prayer, silence, music, storytelling, drama, and reflection. It is inclusive, invitational, and inspiring.

3. Legal Requirements

We fully comply with the legal requirement under the **School Standards and Framework Act 1998** that a daily act of collective worship must be provided for all registered pupils.

- Worship may take place at any time during the school day
- It may be for the whole school, a key stage, a class, or other appropriate groupings
- It must be **wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character**

- Assemblies and Collective Worship are distinct, though they may occur in the same gathering

Responsibility for Collective Worship rests with the **Trust**, in consultation with the **Headteacher** and **Collective Worship Coordinator**.

4. The Place of Collective Worship in School Life

Collective Worship is central to the life and mission of our school. It meets the educational and spiritual needs of:

- Pupils from Christian families
- Pupils for whom school is their only experience of church
- Pupils from other faith backgrounds
- Pupils of no faith

It is a valuable and educational experience from which all can benefit.

5. Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship at Rossington St Michael's CE Primary School aims to:

- Explore the mystery and nature of God
 - Reflect on spiritual, moral, and ethical issues
 - Celebrate life and respond to it with thankfulness
 - Develop a sense of belonging and build community spirit
 - Share and reinforce Christian values and school ethos
 - Deepen understanding of Anglican traditions and liturgy
 - Promote participation, reflection, and wonder
 - Provide time for personal growth, stillness, and spiritual encounter
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6. Principles of Worship

All acts of worship will:

- Glorify God and reflect our Church of England character
- Be inclusive, accessible, and meaningful to all pupils
- Respect pupils' age, backgrounds, and aptitudes
- Be varied in content, format, and leadership style
- Promote high-quality liturgical and spiritual experiences

Worship will include:

- Clear structures and pacing appropriate to the group
 - A variety of forms (e.g., storytelling, prayer, music, art)
 - Use of the liturgical calendar and key Christian festivals
 - Opportunities for stillness, silence, and personal reflection
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7. Organisation of Collective Worship

Weekly Worship Schedule:

Day	Time	Groups	Focus
Monday	10.00 / 10:20 / 10:40	FS/KS1, Y3&4, Y5&6	Whole-school themed worship
Tuesday	Same as above		Class-led worship – Picture News
Wednesday	Same as above		Focus on scripture and reflection
Thursday	Same as above		Prayer and Praise
Friday	8:50am / 9:15 / 10am	Y3&4, Y5&6, FS/KS1	Celebration & Achievement Assembly

Additional opportunities include:

- **Termly Eucharist services**
- **Seasonal services at St Michael's Church** (e.g. Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas, Easter, Leavers' Service)
- **Parental attendance** at key worship events and weekly celebrations

8. Planning, Content, and Delivery

Worship is planned collaboratively by the Headteacher, Collective Worship Coordinator, staff, and clergy.

Planning considers:

- Liturgical calendar (e.g. Advent, Lent, Pentecost)
- Key Christian teachings, scripture, and values
- Curriculum links and current events
- The Apostles' Creed and Anglican traditions
- Inclusion of pupil-led worship and prayer

Daily opportunities for pupils to lead or participate in prayer are built into school life.

9. COVID-19 and Worship Adaptations

During COVID-19 restrictions, worship was adapted to comply with health and safety guidance. Online or classroom-based worship replaced large gatherings. As restrictions ease, we have resumed in-person worship and reintroduced external visitors and church services.

10. Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship is evaluated annually to ensure it:

- Meets legal and diocesan expectations
- Reflects the school's Christian vision
- Supports pupil spiritual development
- Involves a variety of leaders and formats

Foundation Governors and the **Collective Worship Coordinator** play a key role in this process.

11. Resources

- Artefact boxes for Christianity and other world faiths
 - Liturgical materials, candles, symbols, and music
 - Scripture-based planning guides and Picture News
 - Access to school library, multimedia, and visual aids
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12. Eucharist in School

- Eucharist may be celebrated termly for special occasions
 - Planning follows the same principles as other worship
 - Pupils are introduced gradually to liturgy and sacramental life
 - In most cases, the **Liturgy of the Word** is used as the foundation for school-based Eucharist
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13. Leadership of Worship

Worship Leaders include:

- Headteacher
- Collective Worship Coordinator
- Clergy and parish leaders
- Staff and pupils
- Visitors with appropriate safeguarding clearance

Pupil participation is a priority, with older pupils developing skills in planning, leading, and evaluating worship.

14. Role of the Collective Worship Coordinator

The Collective Worship Coordinator is responsible for:

Policy & Planning

- Developing and reviewing the worship policy
- Coordinating annual worship themes
- Ensuring worship meets diverse needs

Monitoring & Evaluation

- Observing acts of worship
- Gathering pupil and staff feedback
- Reporting to SLT and governors

Communication

- Liaising with clergy, governors, and staff
- Welcoming visitors and organising church services
- Engaging parents and the wider community

Professional Development

- Attending diocesan training and sharing best practice
 - Supporting staff and pupils in worship delivery
 - Developing a worship resource bank
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15. Policy Review

This policy is reviewed **every two years** by the Headteacher, staff, and **LSB members**, with input from the **Diocese of Sheffield**. The Collective Worship Coordinator oversees implementation and development.



Appendix: Key Contacts

- **Headteacher** and Collective Worship Lead: Miss J Birks
- **RE Lead**: Mrs H Stanfield
- **Local Church**: Rev. Neil and Rev. Carol - St Michael's Church, Rossington
- **Diocesan Adviser**: Contact via Diocese of Sheffield