



Micklefield C of E Primary Academy
COLLABORATIVE LEARNING TRUST



Learning and Growing Together, With Faith, Hope and Love

Micklefield CE Primary Academy
Collective Worship Policy
2022-2024



Micklefield C of E Primary Academy is a Church of England School, with Christian Values at the heart of everything we do.

Our Christian Vision underpins all that we do:

LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER WITH FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

With Faith, anything is possible

Believe in yourself

With Hope, all things are brighter

Believe in your future

With Love, we are never alone

Believe in others

Our vision at Micklefield CE Primary is rooted in the parable of the mustard seed:

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater than herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds in the air come and lodge in its branches. Matthew 13 V31-32.

Faith

We want our children to grow the faith that they have in themselves and develop their own core beliefs, underpinned by Christian values and teaching, to equip them as they leave our school and take their place in the world.

**Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged.
For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9**

Hope

At Micklefield we have high hopes and aspirations for our future, our school and community. We also understand that faith gives us hope for both now and for the future, and that this hope brings confidence. Hope for us means that there is always a future whatever situation we are in, because God promised to never leave us, to always love us and to help us in times of need.

With God all things are possible. Matthew 19:26

Love

Love is a very important value to us as a school. Love underpins everything that we do. It is very much 'the why' of who we are. Love is evident in our relationships with each other and in our actions to support our families, our community and our world. We see it in our interactions at school and home, feel it when we are together, and experience it through how others act towards us. We can grow and learn together because we know that God loves us.

**Love is more important than anything else. It's what ties everything completely together.
Colossians 3:14**



Rationale

Our collective worship policy strengthens and supports the Christian identity of our school, reaffirms our vision and core values of friendship, respect, community and hope and celebrates the central role that each child has to play in their community. Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England, and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Therefore Collective Worship at Micklefield C of E Primary Academy is planned to:

- be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school.
- regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching and this should explore and relate to the school's core Christian values.
- have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity.
- help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection, Stillness.
- contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with "something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to".
- be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.

Collective worship should be invitational and an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and foundation.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship on religious grounds. This does not guarantee an exemption from the Christian ethos of the school. Parents wishing to do this must contact the headteacher. Worship is an important part of the ethos of the school which teachers must be willing and able to uphold. It is expected that all teachers will attend daily Collective Worship with their pupils. This is one way for the school to show that worship is central to its life and is important for everyone, not just children. It also makes sense educationally for teachers to know what their pupils are experiencing in Collective Worship. Therefore, teachers should not have time out of worship on a regular basis but only in exceptional circumstances. Collective worship should not be used as part of a teacher's planning, preparation and assessment (PPA) time. It is acknowledged that teachers have the right to withdraw from worship on grounds of conscience.



Inclusion and Equal Opportunities

The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter. Our Equal Opportunities & Accessibility Policy is intended to help to ensure that this school promotes the individuality of all children, irrespective of ethnicity, religion, attainment, age, disability, gender or background.

Planning Collective Worship

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We mark out this special time by lighting candles as we say our Welcome Words together.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We use a 4 stage structure of planning including 'Gathering' 'Engaging' 'Responding' 'Sending'. There should also be space for evaluation.

Resources

A worship-planning group meets once a term. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms Acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through Pupil Voice. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring

Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning leading and monitoring of Collective worship. School governors have a role monitoring Collective worship through membership of the ethos committee at the school.

We use a number of resources available to form the basis of collective worship planning, including:

- Roots and Fruits 1 and 2 (www.imaginer.co.uk)
- SPCK assemblies <https://assemblies.org.uk>
- Worship works <https://www.worshipworkshop.org.uk/>
- Journey through the Bible <https://dioceseofyork.org.uk/schools-and-youth/schoolseducation-homepage/the-year-of-the-diocese/journeythroughbible/>

It is for schools to decide how best, in its own context, pupils should take part in Collective Worship, e.g. in year groups, key stage groups, upper/lower school, tutor/class groups, whole school. The law makes no requirement about this other than it is daily.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is coordinated by Mrs Emma Cook.

Our pattern of Collective Worship

Whole School Worship is held 3 days a week. These are taken by the Headteacher and teaching staff.

Class worship is held twice a week. These are taken by the class teacher or teaching assistant.



Schedule:

Monday	Whole school worship introducing the value for the week based on biblical teachings.
Tuesday	Class worship learning from our vision and values
Wednesday	Whole school worship through Christian Song or Whole Class Worship led by Reverend Plant
Thursday	Class Worship through Picture News
Friday	Whole school worship Celebrating our Value together

Visitors to our school include:

- Reverend Wendy and Father Nick - Curates of St Mary's Micklefield
- Anne and Mike Church Leaders from Dayspring Church Garforth
- Father Chris – Vicar of Sherburn in Elmet group of parishes
- Members of the congregation of St Mary, the virgin, Micklefield

Acts of worship generally follow themes that are linked to the school's vision and values and include the pattern of the church's year.

Visitors

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. In general, the Headteacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause without the prior permission of the Headteacher.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of collective acts of worship, is undertaken by pupils, staff, and governors on a termly basis. All who deliver worship will be observed on a termly basis. This process supports the school's self-evaluation, is a specific responsibility of the foundation governors and is reported to the whole governing body. Pupils are also involved in evaluating collective worship through feedback in weekly class worship and questionnaires. All leaders of collective worship are asked to evaluate continuously, reflect after every worship, to develop and improve their practice.

Our school regularly evaluates our acts of collective worship and the impact it has on the school and its wider community. This involves monitoring by school leaders, staff, pupils and governors in order to grow and develop. Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of York(SIAMS).

Review date: Autumn term 2024