

A place to learn where everyone feels welcome;
based on love, wisdom, and respect.



Collective Worship Policy

Approved by Governors:	June 2024
Review Date:	August 2026

Lower Peover C of E Primary School is a place to learn where everyone feels welcome; based on a foundation of love, wisdom, & respect.

“Make your light shine, so that others may see the good you do” Matthew 5:16



The tree: symbolises our school, the Lord's creation.

The roots: represent our foundations, the teaching of the Bible and our values.

The trunk: symbolises the heart of our school and its strong Christian ethos.

The branches: represent our families, staff, governors, trustees, and community who all work together to support our children.

The leaves: symbolise the children, growing to be the best that they can be.

The wise owl: represents the spirit of the school and chooses to live in our tree.

The sun: represents the light shining on everyone.

At Lower Peover C.E Primary we are a partnership of school, church, home, and community. We create a stimulating and caring environment, grounded in Christian belief and practice, so that all members of our school community feel happy, safe, and secure, based on our Christian values of love, wisdom, and respect. Time is taken to value and nurture each child educationally, creatively, and spiritually, valuing the preciousness of everyone. Children and staff are encouraged to live their faith and grow in wisdom.

Entitlement

At Lower Peover C.E Primary the whole school worships together three times a week, once in their Key Stage and once in the classroom.

Children learn simple prayers and responses, which are used as part of our Collective Worship.

We visit St. Oswald's Church, Lower Peover regularly across the year for events such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter. These services are led by the children, for the children.

Although our school is Church of England, we feel that the worship in school is appropriate to all Christians. Parents and friends are invited to join us in church or on Friday worship in school.

The aims of Collective Worship

- At Lower Peover Church of England Primary we aim to:
- Fully live the values of love, wisdom, and respect.

- Provide an act of Collective Worship for every child every day.
- Provide opportunities for spiritual and moral development.
- Enable everyone to celebrate the whole life of the school in the presence of God.
- Allow pupils to become familiar with a variety of worship in the Anglican tradition, according to their developmental stages.
- Provide opportunities for pupils to address God directly.
- Encourage pupils to learn more about the Christian faith.
- Nurture a concern for the wider world.
- Encourage reflection on pupils' own experiences and beliefs.

Legal Requirements

All schools are required to provide an act of worship each day for each pupil; unless parents have stated that their child should be withdrawn.

The whole school does not need to meet together but may meet in classes or groups.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children; however, such children will miss a valuable part of our school's life and sharing of corporate experiences.

Teachers too have the right to decline to lead worship, but this will have been explored when staff were appointed.

Responsibilities for Collective Worship

The Governing Board, after consultation with the Head Teacher, is responsible for seeing that the character of the school is reflected in the worship.

The Foundation Governors have responsibility for seeing that the character of the school is reflected in the worship. The Diocesan Guidelines for Collective Worship state:

'Church of England schools are required to hold a daily act of collective worship which is consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England. Opportunities should therefore be provided for pupils to offer worship to God, through Jesus Christ, without losing sight of either the different starting points of each of the pupils, or the need for the act of worship to take account of the developmental ages of the pupils'

Curriculum time

The act of worship is not included as part of the allocation for curriculum time.

On special occasions such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter we hold our act of worship in St. Oswald's Church but this again, is not counted as curriculum time.

Complaints and appeals

Where collective worship and Religious Education are conducted in accordance with the Trust of Deed, any complaints from parents should be addressed to the Governors. In the case of appeals, these should be taken up by the Diocese.

Planning and the content of Collective Worship

In planning the worship of our school, we provide opportunity for:

- Exploration of a focus
- Reflection
- Celebration
- Pupil participation

All the content that is explored within our times of Collective Worship will provide opportunities for supporting the school values of love, wisdom, and respect. Please refer to the Collective Worship overview document.

Over the course of the year this will be achieved through:

- Developing a sense of awe and wonder.

- Celebrating the beauty of living things.
- Searching for meaning.
- Experiencing an awareness of the spiritual dimension, God, self and others.
- Prayer.
- Affirming positive values (e.g. decency, honesty, self-sacrifice, courage, human rights.)
- Being aware of negative behaviour (e.g. cruelty, injustice, exploitation.)
- Exploring right and wrong.
- Reflecting on broader and more lasting concerns.
- Valuing things of worth.
- Creating an atmosphere of reverence and mystery.
- Giving thanks
- Experiencing a caring and compassionate community.
- Exploring emotions, thoughts, and ideas.
- Promoting a sense of friendship, acceptance, and unity.
- Encouraging responsibility for making personal decisions.
- Celebrating achievements and special occasions.
- Sharing and experiencing similarities and differences.

<p>Adults may lead the worship through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer • Reflection • Discussion • Silence • Song/music • Drama • Pictures • Poetry • Story • Artefacts • Special people/visitors • Children's work and achievements • Sacred writing • Video/media 	<p>Children may participate through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning • Acting • Singing • Leading • Dancing • Listening • Thinking • Praying • Questioning • Answering • Reading
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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 Board.

Pupils are also involved in evaluating Collective Worship through feedback in weekly class worship, reflections from collective worships, and the Ethos Committee.

All leaders of Collective Worship are asked to evaluate continuously, and to 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.

These are shared with our Senior Leadership Team and during Full Governing Board meetings and play an integral part in developing the spiritual growth of the school. Worship is independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 in consultation with the Diocese of Chester (SIAMS).