



School/Academy Name: Brereton CE Primary School

Date agreed by LGB	Review Date	Signed Chair of LGB
21.10.24	October '27	<i>Nicola Jenkinson</i>



Brereton CE Primary School **Policy for Collective Worship**

Introduction

Brereton Primary School is committed to offering high quality collective worship. We recognise and value collective worship as central to fostering a sense of community and to expressing our Christian vision. In practice this means that structure, planning, evaluation, participation and collaboration of worship are all taken seriously by the school. The Church of England Vision for Education ‘Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good’ states: We want pupils to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with Jesus Christ and with Christian faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives. Collective worship in schools, including prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity, provide a vital opportunity for this.

At Brereton Primary School collective worship is seen as the unique heartbeat of the school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together. Worship is central to realising our aims and vision which is based on Matthew 22: 34-40 ‘Love God and Love One Another’.

Vision:

We nurture a school community where everyone experiences a love of learning and of life; everyone is able to grow in God’s love.

At Brereton we aim:

- To know Jesus, Light of the World;
- To be the guiding light on the path of each child's learning journey;
- To light a love of learning and of life;
- For our children to become leading lights in our community and our world;

Why do we worship?

Faith means we believe in a God or Gods and for Christians we join together in an Act of Collective Worship to thank our God through our prayers and praise Him through songs. Worship is held daily; it is when we make time for God in our busy lives. We worship for at least 20 minutes every day. In those minutes we make sure that we ‘Love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our souls and with all our minds and all our strength’, just as the song says! We want everyone to feel respectful and calm but relaxed and comfortable and welcome in God’s family.

Collective worship is Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring.

At Brereton Primary collective worship is:

- Invitational, offering everyone the opportunity to engage in the act of worship, whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity.
- Inspiring and creative, impacting the whole community and motivating them into action.
- Inclusive, where all are included, have a voice and are listened to.
- A valued part of the culture of the school, breathing life into every aspect of the school day.

No assumption is made that we all have the same beliefs and values. Through Collective Worship, we blend Christian, Biblical teaching and values education in order to create opportunities for



children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally, spiritually and intelligently.

We do this by following a weekly structure:

Monday	Whole School Worship. Each half term has an overall theme connected to the vision and values of our school. This is rooted in a Bible story and class reflection time enables children and adults to focus on ‘how then shall we live?’ considering what the message means to their daily lives, age and stage,
Tuesday	‘Better me, Better We’. Worship takes place in individual classes, beginning with a worship box drawing us together and sharing a bible story. This longer session then progresses into a PSHE lesson drawing on the Bible story and supporting children with ‘Better me or Better We’ examples.
Wednesday	Whole School Worship. Rev. Sandi leads this worship weekly focusing on a theme, Bible story and messages for our lives. Children in Reception have their own class visit enabling them to explore stories and messages in an age appropriate way.
Thursday	‘Better We’ whole school worship. Children come together to consider events beyond school, our British Values and how we live well together. No Outsiders and Picture News resources are used and Christian Teaching is discussed.
Friday	Whole School Worship – A celebration of our school values in action.
Pupil Worship	At Brereton, pupils lead elements of worship as normal practice. This may include leading prayer, performing a Bible story or introducing a theme. On the final Monday of each half term, Worship is entirely pupil lead as a pupil, small group from each class (or the whole class) perform or present what the theme of the half term has meant to them. In addition, the school ethos council lead special whole school worship opportunities such as ‘Pumpkins of Light’ helping to further develop work towards our vision and values.

Legal Background:

We accept that: "All pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of collective worship" unless "the parent . . . requests that he may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in the school" [1988 Education Reform Act 6(1) and 9(3)] We acknowledge the parents' right to withdraw their children and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Any parent or carer can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship. We make it clear that the act of worship is central to the life of the school and is not an occasion for evangelism. We also affirm that the withdrawal of pupils from collective worship would not isolate them from the Christian teaching the school gives. For our school: "The daily act of collective worship required by law in the school shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England." Collective Worship at Brereton Primary is delivered in accordance with the Church of England Guidance for Collective Worship: Inclusive, Invitational, Inspiring.

Who worships?





Church schools are not just for Christians, children who follow a different faith, or no faith also come to our school and we all respect each other’s ideas about our faith. Worship is invitational to all our children and staff.



Worship Aims:

Through our collective worship we aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Explore the school’s vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues. In doing so, it will reflect on moral values such as compassion, gratitude, justice, humility, forgiveness and reconciliation; and develop virtues such as resilience, determination and creativity that develop character and contribute to academic progress.
- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today’s world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, and around the World: for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

Wisdom	Hope	Community	Respect
			
<i>Matthew 7 - The wise and foolish builder</i>	<i>Luke 24 - The Resurrection of Jesus and John 8:12 - I am the light of the world.</i>	<i>Luke 10 - The Good Samaritan</i>	<i>John 13 3-7 - Jesus washes his disciples' feet.</i>

Who do we Worship?

Our God is God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. These three parts of God are called the TRINITY. Everyday our worship reminds us of: God the Father: We say a prayer to God the Father called ‘The Lord’s Prayer’ and it begins with ‘Our Father’. In the Bible it tells us that Jesus taught it to us. God the Son: Our school vision focuses on Jesus’ two greatest commandments and we ask for help to follow in His footsteps and try to act with wisdom, hope, respect and community as He does. God the Holy Spirit: At the end of our Worship we ask that God as ‘Father, Son and Holy Spirit’ be with us in our daily life.

Worship Structure:

	Key Ideas	Worship at Brereton
Gather	We come together as a community and prepare for worship.	We come in quietly preparing for a time of reflection and contemplation. Children sit in silence or join in quietly with the music playing and this is modelled by staff. The screen is used to share collective responses, words, images and videos used in worship. The worship leader opens the worship by welcoming everyone and offering the Peace. Candles are then lit for God the Father, Son and



		Holy Spirit signaling that our worship has begun.
Engage	We engage in questions or themes considering how we live. Examples will be given to illustrate points and these will include biblical teaching.	The worship leader/s will pose a key question or theme. They will illustrate ideas and messages through sharing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bible stories - Music - Artwork - Drama - Questions - Video - Objects and artefacts - Quest speakers
Respond	We respond to the ideas and prompts shared considering what this means for how we live.	Children and adults may respond in a number of ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silence - Stillness - Written thoughts - Holding objects prompting thoughts - Reflecting the ‘wows, ows, nows and vows’ - Song - Art - Drama <p>A key question, linked to how we will live, is always offered. E.g I wonder how we can be better friends? I wonder what we can do to help..?</p> <p>A prayer is always offered and children and adults say ‘Amen’ at the end if they wish if they wish to make the prayer their own.</p>
Send	The worship leader reminds everyone of the purpose of worship – to impact the way we live today and in the future.	Closing prayers are offered followed by a collective response. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. <u>In the name of Christ, Amen.</u> Candles are extinguished signaling the end of worship before and messages or notices are made. Quiet music may be played or silence maintained. This is modelled by staff. Children leave one class at a time. On Monday’s an extended reflection is held in classrooms



Our worship table serves as a visible focus for our worship. It reflects the churches teaching, our school vision and values and prompts to respond to this week's worship theme. The table is one wheels and is kept in the main entrance hall when not in use as a visible reminder for children and staff throughout the school day and to support visitors' understanding of our Christian Distinctiveness. The worship table includes:

- A Bible
- A Cross
- Three Candles
- Liturgical Colour
- Thematic Artefacts.

Colour	2024-25
ORDINARY	26 May 2024 – 29 November 2024
CHRIST THE KING	24 November
ADVENT	1 December – 24 December 2024
CHRISTMAS + EPIPHANY	25 December 2023 – 1 February 2025
ORDINARY	3 February – 3 March 2025
LENT	5 March – 12 April 2025
EASTER	17 April – 7 June 2025
PENTECOST	8 June 2025
ORDINARY	9 June –

Mrs Natasha Wood, Religious Education and Worship Coordinator

Reviewed October 2024