



The Holme Church of England Primary School

The Good Shepherd Trust
Academies in partnership with the Guildford Diocese Education Trust

Collective Worship Policy



Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Responsible Body
September 2023	September 2025	Headteacher	The Good Shepherd Trust

Legal Requirements of Religious Education

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

Our Philosophy

At The Holme, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school, we seek to promote our Christian ethos and our Values-based Education approach. It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly. We actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. These include whole school worship, class worship and key stage worship. Worship is led by school staff and also our parish team. Children may also join in leading aspects of worship.

Children come into Collective Worship quietly, to quiet music, preparing themselves for reflection and prayer and in order to help the children establish a reflective mindset. Year 5/6 children help to run our worship, preparing the music and setting out the altar, with candles, cloth and cross as a focal point. To signal the start of our worship, we use a welcome and opening candle lighting prayer. Any non-worship business (notices, safety etc) is not conducted until the candles have been snuffed to signal the end of our worship.

Prayer and Reflection

Worship closes with a prayer, which may be specific to that day's topic or may be our school prayer, which the children all know by heart.

At The Holme, we hold regular prayer space activities and pause days. These often incorporate different prayer stations and allow children to pray and reflect upon key events in the Christian calendar, local, national and international events and issues as well as feelings and events personal to individual children. Children have the opportunity to visit these with their whole class or during playtimes and lunchtimes.

Each class has its own end-of-day prayer, which is said together just before going home. Before lunch, each class says our lunchtime prayer to thank God for our food.

Church Links

The whole school takes part in services at All Saints Church for Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter. These services are planned by both staff and pupils and supported by the priest-in-charge, Reverend Yann Dubreuil. Parents and members of the local parish are also welcomed to these services.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

The collective worship schedule is planned out each half term to enable each worship leader to plan complementary worship and accompanying music. Records are kept in the Collective Worship file on the Staff Server, providing extra details.

The impact of Worship is measured through pupil voice (interviews and questionnaires) as well as staff and parent questionnaires. Worship is also evaluated by observations. Results are collated and acted upon.

Linked Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school Religious Education and Values-Based Education policies.

Headteacher:	Sarah Stevenson	Date:	September 2023
Chair of the Local Committee:	Alex Kemp	Date:	September 2023