Shropshire Hills Federation

Collective Worship Policy

Shropshire Hills Christian Vision

Our ethos is, ‘Take a risk to be the best you can be’.

‘Let your light shine’ (Matthew 5:16)

Chirbury CE Primary School & Busy Bees Nursery, Norbury Primary School and Nursery, and Stiperstones CE Primary School are committed to providing outstanding education and opportunities for all of it pupils and excellent and fulfilling career opportunities for staff members. It is our vision that, every member of this school community feels respected and valued and has the courage to set aspirational goals for themselves and their future.

We work as team for the benefit of all children, to ensure that they are given a secure and stable foundation for their lives, valuing all aspects of learning equally. With a love of learning and a resilient and persevering attitude, our community will have the ability to celebrate and embrace the differences that the wider world offers. In time all of our children will be confident to explore life with an open mind; this will support them to flourish in the modern world and reach their full potential as a member of their community.

"Encourage one another and build each other up." (Thessalonians 5.11)

Our two schools operate as one unit. We recognise and appreciate the unique nature of our rural environment: both the opportunities it presents for the development of a healthy, active lifestyle and the challenges associated with rural isolation and deprivation. Our ethos strives to maximise use of the outdoors to develop children’s confidence and independence whilst providing a wide range of additional experiences to ensure that all children understand the wider world and grow up as ambitious young people with high aspirations for future academic and career opportunities.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart' Colossians 3:23

Our local communities are important to our schools and nurseries, and we aspire to develop strong links with the different groups within them to promote pride in our communities and pride in our schools.

Chirbury and Stiperstones are Church of England Schools and Norbury is a non-Church Foundation School. This does not, and should never prevent us from working progressively closer together as we share common values based upon Christian beliefs: we actively promote high moral standards and values in order for children to grow and develop into citizens who make positive contributions to society. We respect equally the beliefs of families with a Christian faith, with different faiths and cultures, and those with no faith.

Our Key Aims

- To ensure that all children are safe, secure and nurtured to bring out the best in them.
- To provide the **outstanding education** that every child deserves.
- For children to be happy and excited in their learning and play.
- To develop a culture of respect, tolerance and understanding.
- To ensure that every child is treated as an individual and respect their differences.
- To develop a life-long love of learning and the natural curiosity of children.
- To develop confidence by promoting a working environment where mistakes are valued as an essential part of learning, and perseverance and resilience are recognised as essential life skills.
- To promote healthy lifestyles for children and adults, being concerned for physical and mental well-being.
- To be adventurous and enjoy the outdoors: to enjoy and value the natural world.
- To develop independence.
- For children to be well prepared for the stages of learning and life which follow primary education.

For adults to have high expectations of children; high aspirations for their own career development; and to be good role models for our children.

We will work tirelessly to support all of our school community, achieving our vision. The vision will be lived out daily, with children and adults from across the school living life in a caring and loving environment based firmly on the love and teachings of Jesus. Our children will embrace the Christian values of courage, respect, generosity, compassion, perseverance, trust, friendship, forgiveness, wisdom, justice, service, thankfulness, peace, truthfulness, community, hope, dignity and joy, exploring them through our school values of resilience, integrity, support and kindness (RISK).

At the heart of all the school does is a belief that the Christian values we live our lives by are rooted in the teaching and person of Jesus Christ and his invitation to live life in all its fullness.

Rationale

Under the Education Act 1996, all maintained schools must provide daily collective worship for all registered pupils, apart from those who have been withdrawn by their parents. Collective worship is part of the educational provision of the school and thus underpins all aspects of school life. It is an entitlement for all pupils. The school aims through worship to not only meet the legal requirements of the Education Act, but also to develop learner's understanding of Christian traditions and practice and make a significant contribution to the overall spiritual development of members of the school community - recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England.

The parental right to withdraw a child from receiving RE and Collective Worship is unaffected by this rationale, and stands as freely exercisable to parents who request this. School must give effect to any such request. Parents are not obliged to state their reasons for seeking withdrawal.

In Church of England schools, collective worship is seen as more than a daily 'awe and wonder' moment. It is 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. Collective Worship is central to our primary schools as it strengthens and supports the Christian Distinctiveness and Spiritual Development, and reaffirms our vision and core values. It celebrates the central role that each child has to play in the community and is an essential component of an education that enables all pupils to flourish and to Learn for Fullness of Life.

Guidelines

Inclusive, Invitational, and Inspiring

Inclusive: Worship is collective in that it involves meeting, exploring, questioning, and responding to others and, for some, to God. In our Church school pupils, their families and other adults can expect to encounter worship that is inclusive of, and fully accessible to, all. We acknowledge that there are pupils and staff in our school that will come from homes of different faith backgrounds as well as of no faith background. Moreover, many pupils will naturally be at different stages of their spiritual journey during their time in school. Pupils should be given the opportunity to think and ask questions. There should be space to consent, and dissent: to participate and to stand back; and to consider. It is an expectation that care will be taken to ensure that the language used by those facilitating worship avoids assuming faith in all those participating, listening and watching. Collective worship should not be 'done to' but will involve meaningful contributions from the whole school community, including pupils. It is recognised that pupils will bring their own experience to worship. Inclusion requires pupil involvement in planning, leading and the evaluation of worship. Although part of a national legislative framework, collective worship in the Church school grows out of the local context and out of pupils' experience, including their cultural backgrounds.

Invitational: Parents, pupils and adults can expect to encounter worship that is consistently invitational. There should be no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship should provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. The metaphor of 'warm fires and open doors' captures this idea. The warmth of the fire derives from the clarity and authenticity of the Christian message at its heart. There is no value to an encounter with a watered down, lowest common denominator version of faith. Importantly the door is open, all are welcome

to come in and sit as near or as far away from the fire as they feel comfortable. Pupils and adults should always only be invited to pray if they wish to do so and should be invited to pray in their own way. Prayer should always be accompanied by the option to reflect.

Inspiring: Pupils and adults can expect the worship they encounter in a Church school to be inspirational. Worship should be formational and transformational: it should enable pupils and adults to ask big questions about who we are and why we do what we do. It should motivate pupils and adults into action, into thinking differently, and into reflecting on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions. As a result of inspirational collective worship, they should be inspired to become courageous advocates of causes. It should encourage them to think searchingly about their faith, beliefs and/or philosophical convictions.

Intent

It is our intent to:

Explore the school's vision of Learning for Fullness of Life and its basis in the Creation Story. Reflect on how the vision informs the school values and key learning habits and the two are interwoven.

Provide opportunity to reflect on the half termly values and linked Bible stories.

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, 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

Be inspirational and inclusive, engaging all learners. They can talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school

Help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.

Provide an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Themes and Planning

Collective Worship must be approached in a planned and professional way so that it can be a meaningful and worthwhile aspect of school life.

Collective worship should be distinctively Christian and help develop an understanding of Jesus Christ and the understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Our worship reflects the variety of traditions found in the Church of England and will recognise and follow the Christian liturgical year. The daily act of collective worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors. All worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring. It makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community.

Themes and planning for collective worship will be planned on a half-termly basis and will generally consist of:

1. Christian Values explored around the key values identified in our rolling programme
2. Key events from the Christian calendar (or paying respect to those of other faiths)
3. Key personal, social, moral and cultural themes being covered in school
4. The development of knowledge and understanding of The Bible.

Throughout each week, worship will consist of a range of the following:

Collective worship delivered by our staff, Open the Book teams, Rev Rich or Rev Giles.

Christian values assembly, based around school and Christian values using the Roots and Fruits scheme.

Singing assembly: a mix of traditional hymns, songs that reflect our school and Christian values, and songs used for school performances,

World news: delivered in each class to allow the use of content that is appropriate to the age of the children.

A celebration of good work.

Structure of Collective worship:

Quiet reflection on entering; a time of stillness

A central focal point: a table

Exploration of Christian and school values and the teachings of Jesus.

A focus on spirituality

Reflection through engaging activities such as: discussion, song, music, drama or stories.

Prayer

Worship Calendar

Resilience	Integrity	Support	Kindness
Courage	Respect	Generosity	Compassion
Perseverance	Trust	Friendship	Forgiveness
Wisdom	Justice	Service	Thankfulness
Peace	Truthfulness	Community	Hope
	Dignity		Joy

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year A	Generosity	Compassion	Courage	Forgiveness	Friendship	Respect
Year B	Thankfulness	Trust	Perseverance	Justice	Service	Truthfulness
Year C	The words of Jesus: Hope Community Dignity Wisdom Joy Peace (to run through worship for the academic year)	Advent and Christmas	People Jesus Meets	Holy week and Easter	The Parables of Jesus	The Miracles of Jesus

2025/2026 Autumn Term 1 and 2

Generosity	**Compassion**
Loving others as we love ourselves (Mark 12.31)	Noticing a need (Mark 6.34)
Giving sacrificially (Luke 21.1-4)	Being a good neighbour (Luke 10.25-37)
Giving cheerfully (2Corinthians 9.7)	Putting on the right attitude (Colossians 3.12)
Caring for Creation (Genesis 2.15)	Having the courage to care (Exodus 2.1-10)
Giving our time (Nehemiah)	Coming to the rescue (Luke 15.4-6)
Celebrating Harvest: Giving as God gives (Psalm 6.13-19)	*Celebrating Christmas:* God of the unexpected (Luke 2.8-20)

2025/2026 Spring Term 1 and 2

Courage	**Forgiveness**
Stepping out of your comfort zone (Exodus 3-4)	Wiping the slate clean (Colossians 3.13)
Doing the right thing, not the easy thing (Esther 4-8)	Turning over a new leaf (Luke 19.1-10)
Facing a challenge (Joshua 2)	Forgiving others as God has forgiven you (Matthew 18.21-25)
Overcoming fear (1 John 4.8)	Beginning again (Luke 15.11-32)
Encouraging others (Joshua 1.9)	Putting the past behind us (Psalm 32.1)
Celebrating Candlemas: Trusting God's promises (Luke 2.21-40)	*Celebrating Lent and Easter:*When darkness turns into light (Ephesians 1.7)

2025/2026 Summer Term 1 and 2

Friendship	**Respect**
Sticking together (Proverbs 18.24)	Remembering to pray for others (Ephesians 6.18)
Encouraging one another (1 Thessalonians 5.11)	Valuing difference (Luke 7.1-10)
Supporting one another (Luke 5.17-39)	Valuing others as we would like to be valued (Matthew 7.12)
Making time for each other (Luke 10.38-42)	Valuing special places (Matthew 21.12-17)
Learning to listen (Proverbs 17.17)	Valuing different opinions (1 Peter 2.17)
Celebrating Pentecost: Knowing God's prescence Acts 2)	*Celebrating Trinity*: God's never ending love (Psalm 8.9)

2026/2027 Autumn Term 1 and 2

Thankfulness	**Trust**
Thanking God for people who help us (Philippians 1.3)	Knowing our friends will support us (Ecclesiastes 4.9-10)
Praising God in creation (Psalm 148)	Knowing Jesus is with us in stormy times (Mark 4.35-41)
Remembering to say thank you (Ephesians 5.20)	Standing on God's promises (Psalm 18.2)
Giving thanks even when times are difficult (Acts 16.16-end)	Being trustworthy, not gossiping (proverbs 11.13)

Counting your blessings (1 Thessalonians 5.16)	Trusting God (Isaiah 49.16)
Celebrating Harvest: Living fruitful lives (Mark 4.3-9)	*Celebrating Advent:* Believing God has a plan for our lives (Luke 1.26-38)

2026/2027 Spring Term 1 and 2

Perseverance	**Justice**
Running the race of life (Hebrews 12.1-2)	Treating people fairly (Micah 6.8)
Keeping going against all odds (Matthew 2.13-15)	Making wise decisions (Isaiah 1.17)
Doing the right thing (Jeremiah 38.1-13)	Seeking God's love in action (Matthew 20.1-16)
Meeting a personal challenge (Philippians 4.13)	Seeing the whole picture (2 Corinthians 8.21)
Encouraging others to keep going (Acts 11.24)	Keeping God's rules (Exodus 20)
Celebrating Epiphany: Pushing through (Matthew 2.1-12)	*Celebrating Lent and Easter:* Goodness is stronger than evil (John 18-19)

2026/2027 Summer Term 1 and 2

Service	**Truthfulness**
Using our talents to serve (Galatians 5.13)	Telling the whole story (John 8.12)
Receiving as well as giving (1Kings 17.7-16)	Living without lies (Genesis 27)
Giving with no strings attached (Matthew 20.28)	Making the right choices (Zechariah 8.16)
Looking at the heart (1Samuel 16.1-13)	Searching for the truth (Matthew 13.44-46)
Living for others (Matthew 4.18-20)	Having the courage to be honest (Ephesians 4.15)
Celebrating Pentecost (The birthday of the church (Acts 2.44-47)	Celebrating Trinity (Seeing the truth (2 Corinthians 13.13)

2027/2028 Autumn Term 1 and 2

The words of Jesus	**Advent and Christmas**
I am the light of the world	The coming of Jesus foretold
Blessed are the peacemakers	Zechariah and Elizabeth
This is how you should pray	The angel announces good news to Mary
Do not be worried	Mary visits Elizabeth
Do not judge others	The long journey to Bethlehem
Forgive others	Jesus in born
A tree is known by the fruit it bears	The coming of the Magi
Love one another	The escape into Egypt

2027/2028 Spring Term 1 and 2

People Jesus meets	Holy Week and Easter
Simeon and Anna	Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey
The teachers in the temple	Jesus clears the temple
John the Baptist	Jesus and the last supper
The Tempter	Jesus is betrayed
Nathaniel	Jesus is crucified
The children	The risen Jesus meets Mary
Zacchaeus	The risen Jesus meets Thomas
Martha and Mary	Jesus ascends into Heaven

2027/2028 Summer Term 1 and 2

The Parables of Jesus	The Miracles of Jesus
The wise and the foolish builders	Jesus and the Wedding at Cana
The Sower	Jesus meets a Roman Centurion
The Good Samaritan	Jesus Calms the Storm
The Mustard Seed	Jesus Heals a Paralysed Man
The Yeast	Jesus Feeds 5000 People
The Lost Sheep	Jesus Walks on Water
The Pharisee and the Tax Collector	Jesus Heals 10 Men with Leprosy
The Loving Father and the Prodigal Son	Jesus and the Enormous Catch of Fish

Leading Spirituality

SELF

Awareness of our feelings & ability to reflect
Awareness of our uniqueness and self-worth
Happiness with who we are and a sense of joy in life
Awareness of disappointment, suffering and loss
Development of imagination and creativity
Sense of personal responsibility and human capacity for choice
Exploration of personal faith and beliefs
Ability to find inner strength when facing challenges

OTHERS

A sense of others as feeling, thinking persons
Ability to empathise with others
Showing generosity towards others
Loving all our neighbours, even when this is difficult

BEAUTY

Developing a sense of awe and wonder
Enjoying the miracles of everyday life
Taking time for what really matters
Appreciating beauty in art, music and nature
A sense of pattern, sequence and order

BEYOND (TRANSCENDENCE)

A sense of the mystery of life
Being intrigued by mystery
Open to an awareness of transcendence
Ability to explore life's big questions
Being comfortable with stillness, silence, reflection and prayer
Connecting with God
Making sense of the world

R Resilience

I Integrity

S Support

K Kindness

Work and play with:			
Resilience	**Integrity**	**Support**	**Kindness**
• **Wisdom** • **Peace** • **Courage** • **Perseverance** • effort • being reflective • independence • don't give up • some things are hard • through new adventures • trying out the unknown • be brave • learn from mistakes • learning takes place in many ways • nurture skills • willing to have a go • adapt and change • build endurance • think critically • don't be disheartened	• **Respect** • **Trust** • **Justice** • **Truthfulness** • **Dignity** • honesty • courageous advocacy • doing the right thing • maintain individuality • express and allow opinions • respect everyone and everything • everyone is equal • mutual respect • fairness • be trustworthy • responsibility • democracy • listen to others • thoughtfulness • follow the rules • be reliable	• **Generosity** • **Friendship** • **Service** • **Community** • collaboration • charity • teamwork • being happy • through adventures • through practical experiences • help others • look for those needing help • mutual respect • value everyone's attempts • difference can be encouraged and nurtured • empathy • celebrate achievement • appropriate communication	• **Compassion** • **Forgiveness** • **Thankfulness** • **Hope** • **Joy** • at all times • think: is it kind? • care • be polite • be a good friend • others before you • be kind-hearted • generosity