



# Collective Worship Policy

Date of policy review:	January 2025 (Unless there is a National change in policy for schools)
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# Woodlands Primary School Collective Worship Policy

## Policy Statement

At Woodlands Primary School, the regular act of meeting together as a whole school, is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. It is a time where we come together to celebrate and reflect, through assemblies and collective worship. Collective worship, at our school, is based broadly on Christian values. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, and other visitors are valued highly.

## Legal Requirements

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. At Woodlands we provide religious education and daily collective worship for all registered pupils and promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development. 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 Headteacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

## Our current schedule is as follows:

**Monday:** Whole school assembly. 'Picture News' assembly linked to current topics/news. This is usually led by the Deputy Headteacher.

**Tuesday:** Key Stage 2 phase assembly. Themes usually include, national or worldwide celebrations or festivals and current topics or educational points of interest e.g. World Poetry Day, Chinese New Year, and World Religion Day. Subject leaders also deliver assemblies linked to their Subject area. During this time KS1 hold class assemblies, usually based on Newsround stories.

**Wednesday:** Music themed assembly (currently led by a RE lead and Y3/4 phase lead both are choir leaders). This provides opportunity to rehearse/ consolidate known Worship songs alongside opportunities to sing modern and current songs the children are familiar with. Musical groups within school are also given the opportunity to perform to an audience including the School Choir.

**Thursday:** Key Stage 1 phase assembly. Themes usually include, national or worldwide celebrations or festivals and current topics or educational points of interest e.g. World Poetry Day, Chinese New Year, and World Religion Day. Subject leaders also deliver assemblies linked to their Subject area. During this time KS2 hold class assemblies, usually based on Newsround stories.

**Friday:** Whole school 'Secrets of Success' (a range of school based values) and SMSC/British Values linked assembly, during which, we celebrate whole school and individual achievement both in and out of School. This is usually led by the Headteacher.

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship (e.g. Open the Book church group, local authors, local Paralympian etc.) The School Council and our Safeguarding Team (WST) also lead assemblies, for example NSPCC pants, school elections, walk to school week etc.

The assembly/worship usually lasts approximately 15 minutes but this could be longer if for example we have a guest speaker.

#### Examples of songs covered during Music collective worship assembly (every Wednesday)

- ✚ All Things Bright and Beautiful
- ✚ Colours of Day
- ✚ Make me a channel of your peace
- ✚ Morning has broken
- ✚ When I needed a neighbour
- ✚ One more step
- ✚ Shine Jesus shine
- ✚ The wise man built his house upon the rock
- ✚ Think of a world without any flowers
- ✚ Who put the colours in the rainbow?

#### **Prayer and Reflection**

Collective worship and assemblies usually include a time of prayer and/or reflection.

#### **Other Faiths**

Although our worship reflects broadly Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting and celebrating all faiths and cultures, showing acceptance and understanding of varying pupils' beliefs and practices. This is one of our fundamental British Values.

#### **Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring**

An assembly file is kept electronically, and is detailed in children's PD books each half term, outlining details of each act of worship/assembly, themes covered and staff rota. Picture News assembly themes are shared on the School website Termly. Information relating to festivals/celebrations, communication with religious leaders/connections and other documents are located in the PD and RE subject file.

#### **Visits and Visitors**

As part of the curriculum, Woodlands School welcomes visitors to the school to enable them to share their experiences and knowledge on a variety of themes, beliefs and cultures. The whole school attends and contributes towards annual Harvest, Easter and Christmas assemblies when parents / carers are invited to attend. Where possible, these events are held at St Michael's Church (Madeley).

**Withdrawal:**

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.