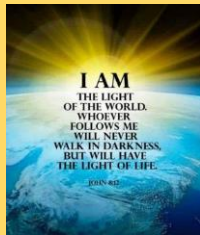




Faith is all around us.  
 We have to have faith in ourselves in order to be the best that we can be.  
 We are a small school, with big hearts and together we beat as one.  
 Sowing seeds of knowledge and faith, with nurture and love  
 We thrive, we grow.



## WISTOW PAROCHIAL CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher: Carla Cox

### POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Document Status		
Date of Next Review	March 2027	Responsibility – Full Governing Body
Date of Policy Creation	24 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	Responsible Governor Name
Date of Review and Ratification at FGB Meeting	March 2025	Allen Blake
<b>Policy Publication/Communication</b> <input type="checkbox"/> On the school website <input type="checkbox"/> Shared staff network drive <input type="checkbox"/> Updates to staff in staff meetings		<i>Signed off by the above named Governor during the full governing body meeting held on the date stated as ratified.</i>

**“The act of collective worship fulfils many functions in the life of a primary school – it’s a time for collective singing, an opportunity to celebrate individual or collective success or achievement, a ‘noticeboard’ for forthcoming events. Above all it gives the whole school the chance simply to come together and meet as a unified group. The essence of the coming together is undoubtedly the sharing of a common experience, very often built around a core religious or moral theme.”**

**Alan Clark – Collective Worship Unwrapped**

Christian values are at the heart of Wistow Parochial CE Primary School and worship at is conducted in accordance with the principles and practice of the Church of England.

#### **Our school mission statement is:**

Faith is all around us. We have to have faith in ourselves in order to be the best that we can be. We are a small school, with big hearts and together we beat as one. Sowing seeds of knowledge and faith, with nurture and love; we thrive, we grow.

This is theologically unpinned by:  
 Matthew 13: 13-18  
 The Parable of the Sower

**AIM:**

**Our aim through Worship is to make our children aware of what it means to be a community committed to serving and caring for each other, God and our world.**

**We hope to achieve:**

- a clear distinction between Collective Worship and assembly.
- the celebration of all that is good and beautiful, in an expression of thankfulness.
- the sharing of what is meaningful and significant to our children, reflecting and learning from their own experiences and the experiences of others.
- the experience of forms of worship which people find helpful in their spiritual development e.g. reflection, dance, singing, silence, including involvement in a rich variety of forms of expression e.g. drama, music and story.
- the sharing of common concerns and responsibilities, focusing on our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- time for silent reflection and exploration.
- affirmation of the equality of each individual in God's sight.

**Guidelines:**

1. Collective Worship should have a sense of occasion. It should be inclusive, invitational and inspiring. We prepare for this special time in the day. Children are encouraged to listen to music whilst waiting to begin Worship and a candle is lit as a focus at the start of worship – welcoming the presence of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
2. Collective Worship is led by teachers, children, the Vicar and occasionally by visitors.
3. Worship takes place in a variety of ways: prayer, reflection, song, story, drama, music, poetry etc. Sometimes it is quiet and contemplative and at other times it may be loud with laughter and joy.
4. We have special celebrations at All Saints Church throughout the year, when families, friends and the Church Family are invited to join us.
6. Children are given many opportunities for prayer. All our children are invited, but are not compelled to pray:
  - (a) they are offered moments of silence during Collective Worship and also at the end of the day for their own prayer or reflection.
  - (b) they may say thank you prayers, including Grace before meals.
  - (c) they may write and share their own prayers which can be used in their classes.
  - (d) we use well known prayers: The Wistow School Prayer, The Lord's Prayer and The Wistow School Grace,

7. Resources for Collective Worship are kept in the Hall and the Staff Room. Additional web based worship ideas are used in addition to those from teachers own worship out of school. The York Diocese Collective Worship resources are also used. There is a budget given to Collective Worship each year.

8. Organisational arrangements:

- Carla Cox (Headteacher) and Emma Griffiths (RE Lead) co-ordinate Collective Worship.
- Worship takes place every day, at various times during the day.

Monday	Whole School led by the Vicar or a visitor or Head teacher in rotation
Tuesday	Whole School worship led by a teacher, visitor or Worship Leaders
Wednesday	Whole School worship led by the head teacher
Thursday	Singing Praise - led by a teacher
Friday	Celebration Collective Worship – led by a class or the Head teacher.

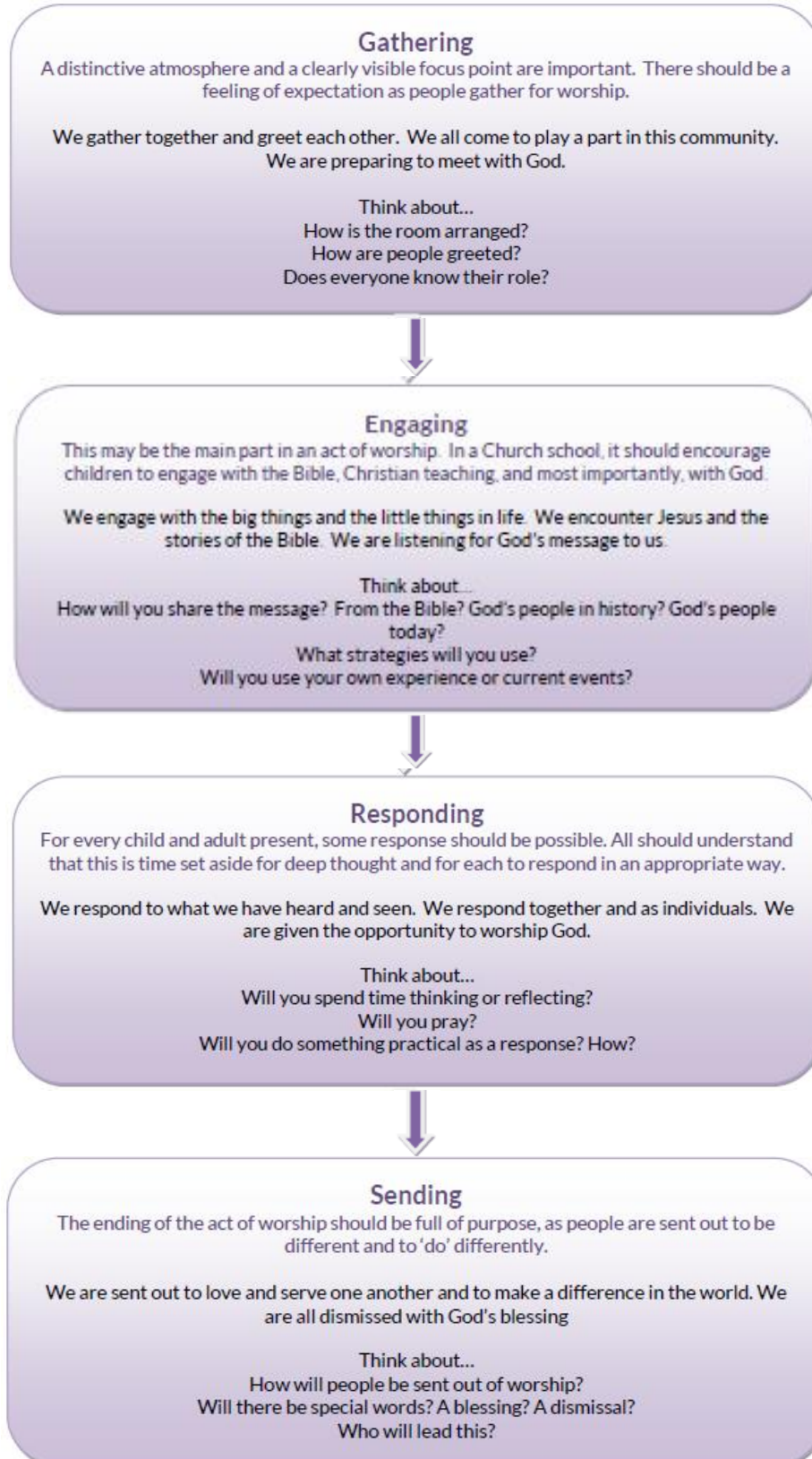
Parents are invited to join us for all Class Led Collective Worships as well as all worship at the end of terms or for special services in Church.

Children are involved in the preparation for Collective Worship, particularly when their class leads worship or when worship is led by the Worship Leaders /School Council and / Digital Leaders / Road Safety Officers/Play Leaders

- Themes for the year are planned in broad outline, noting Christian Festivals and Seasons, School and other events. This includes our school values of Respect, Forgiveness, Resilience and Honesty. The Christian Values of Joy, Justice, Service, Peace, Love, Faith, Grace and Hope are also covered.
- Collective Worship on a Monday and a Tuesday mainly focuses on a journey through the Bible.
- Termly plans are organised into weekly blocks with details of themes and leaders. These themes are planned termly by the Worship Leaders. Suitable hymns and songs are linked with the theme and practised in singing. Worship will always respond to events of international, national or local significance as they arise.
- The theme and content of Collective Worship is recorded and shared with all staff and visitors who will be partaking in Collective Worship during that term / half term.
- All teachers and some TA's lead acts of Collective Worship at Wistow School. All children attend Worship unless their parents have exercised their right to withdraw them.
- Evaluation of the effectiveness of Collective Worship will include:
  - Day to day observation of children's attentiveness and level of interest
  - Specific monitoring of Collective Worship by the headteacher, Vicar and the Diocesan EDA.
  - Parental Feedback

- Discussions with children – led by the Worship Leaders

The school follows the four-part model for Collective Worship:



“The act of collective worship can, and should be the best part of any school day. The joys and concerns of the school, and the world, should be allowed to permeate the worship, and this in turn should infect the whole of school life. An ideal, perhaps, but one worth trying to achieve.”

Sharon Swain: Christian Assemblies for Primary  
Schools.