

Hope SENTAMU LEARNING TRUST

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

THIS POLICY APPLIES TO THE HOPE SENTAMU LEARNING TRUST BOARD, THE CENTRAL TEAM AND
ALL TRUST CHURCH SCHOOLS/ACADEMIES

Document Management	
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Approving Committee	Distinctiveness and Personal Development Committee

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Policy Updates

Date	Page	Policy Updates
November 2023	New policy	

This policy has been approved by:			
Signed		Date	
	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>		
Signed		Date	
	<i>Chair of the DPD Committee</i>		

Statement of Intent

Our Trust Vision

To provide environments where children and young people can thrive.
Life in all its fullness - a place to thrive

Our Trust Values

Respect, Teamwork, Kindness



A respectful and inclusive community, with a culture of thankfulness and appreciation, where we celebrate equality and diversity.



High quality first teaching across all of our schools, in every learning session, without exception.



A broad and balanced educational offer which develops all pupils academically, practically, emotionally, socially and spiritually, leading to great outcomes.



Resilient, sustainable and ethical leadership at all levels of the organisation.

The intent of Collective Worship across our HSLT schools/academies, is to support pupils to ***flourish and to thrive and experience life in all its fullness (John 10:10).***

The daily act of collective worship is central to our Trust and school/academy's theologically rooted in Christian vision and values, and makes an important contribution to the overall spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the whole school community. 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. 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.

We have Trust Chaplaincy to support Collective Worship, offer prayer and spiritual guidance and further develop our links between schools and church and between the school and the wider community, including other denominations and faith communities.

1. Legal Framework

- 1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant **legislation** and **guidance** including, but not limited to, the following:
- **SIAMS Framework Church of England, September 2023**
 - **Diocese of York Collective Worship guidance, Worship Works, September 2022**
 - **The School Standards and Framework Act 1998** (Section 70*)
**This framework requires the Headteacher/Principal and Governing Body of every school/academy to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the schools Trust Deed and foundation*
 - **Right of Withdrawal**
Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from acts of worship and this right is clearly stated on the school/academy website
- 1.2. This policy operates in conjunction with the following **Trust** policies:
- Equality Policy and Objectives
 - Social Emotional and Mental Health Policy

2. Content and Structure of Collective Worship

- 2.1. Our worship is **inclusive, inspirational and invitational**. It reflects the variety of **Anglican and Methodist traditions found in the Church of England** and will recognise and follow the **Christian liturgical year**, with varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals in the UK and worldwide and, where appropriate, the Eucharist. 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. It includes opportunities for prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, liturgy, sacrament and experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity.
- 2.2. Collective worship will help pupils and adults to **reflect on our Trust and school theologically underpinned Christian vision and values**.
- 2.3. It will offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to **grow spiritually** through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- 2.4. It will also be an opportunity to **celebrate and give thanks** for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- 2.5. **Our worship is planned and delivered by a number of different people including, staff, Trust chaplains and our pupil Collective Worship group and consists of 4 stages:**
- Gather – we welcome the school community with music, liturgy and the lighting of a candle
 - Engage – we share, for example a Bible reading, followed by an activity to engage pupils with the Christian message
 - Respond – pupils have the opportunity for reflection through discussion, sharing thoughts, pray if they wish, sing
 - Send – we share the message of the worship again and ask the school community to reflect upon the message in their daily lives. We close with liturgy, final prayer, music and the blowing out of our special candle

3. Monitoring and Evaluation of Collective Worship

- 3.1.** A **school worship-planning and evaluation group** meets each half-term led by the Collective Worship lead. This group includes the Collective Worship lead, link foundation governor and where relevant the chaplain. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate Collective Worship, regarding its impact on the school and wider community and to plan themes for the next term. Regular evaluation each half-term of Collective Worship is undertaken by the group, through pupil voice, observation of worship and staff and wider community voice.
- 3.2.** A **pupil worship group** meets each half-term to feed into this group, through planning of worship and pupil evaluation.
- 3.3.** The **Trust Director of Ethos and Church Schools** monitors Collective Worship each half-term, through school link visits and reports to the Trust Distinctiveness Committee
- 3.4.** Collective Worship is monitored by the Trustees and school governors as a standing item on the **Trust Board Distinctiveness Committee and Local Governing Committee meetings**
- 3.5.** Worship is **independently inspected by law under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005** in consultation with the Diocese of York(SIAMS).

4. CPD and Training Opportunities for Collective Worship

- 4.1.** Regular CPD and training opportunities are delivered through the Diocese of York and are bespoke to school needs.
- 4.2.** The Trust Church School group meets each half-term for schools to further refine and evaluate Collective Worship.

Collective Worship Policy	
Localised School Based Procedures	
School Name:	St. James' CE Academy
Headteacher/Principal:	Julia Strickland
Implementation Date: <i>Inline with policy approval</i>	November 2023

In conjunction with our Trust wide Collective Worship Policy, localised procedures have been established to ensure that systems and procedures reflect the school/academy setting.

The localised procedures for the school/academy setting focus on the following key areas: -

- Leadership of Collective Worship
- Pattern of Collective Worship
- Visiting Speakers
- Diocese, Parish and Community Involvement

Leadership of Collective Worship	
Our Collective Worship leader is:	Margaret Capes
Our foundation link governor for Collective Worship is:	Gloria Naylor

Pattern of Collective Worship	
Whole-school Worship is held:	4 times per week
Whole-school worship is taken by:	All staff and pupils
Class / Key Stage worship is held:	1 times per week
Class / Key Stage worship is taken by:	Class teachers and pupils

Visitors	
'Visitors' Include:	Faith Leaders,
Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school/academy and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non-religious belief are not appropriate. The Headteacher/Principal is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Headteacher/Principal.	

Diocese, Parish and wider community involvement in Collective Worship	
Our school/academy works with our link York Diocese adviser , regarding planning, delivery and monitoring and evaluation of Collective Worship	
Our school/academy works with MAST:	N/A
Local parishioners involved on a regular basis with the worship programme:	Parishioners invited into school for community events linked to key festivals in the Christian Calendar