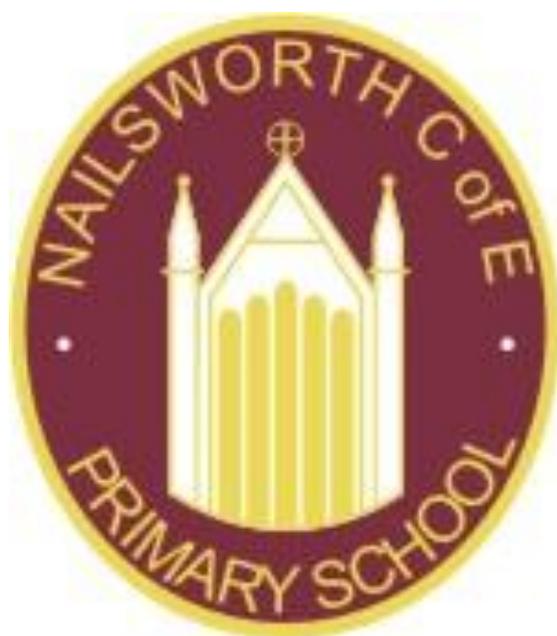


Policy Statement for

Worship



Change History	Summary of Key Changes
Dec 2009	Updated to new format
May 2016	Updated following review with staff and governors

Nailsworth C of E Primary School

Collective worship is central to the life and purposes of Nailsworth C of E School and is fundamental to the development of its Christian foundation, vision, values and ethos. The Senior Leadership Team has drawn up the policy in consultation with the governing body. The policy and practice is informed by the Trust Deed and Ethos Statement of the school.

Collective worship provides a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story in an inspirational way. It is also a time for the giving and receiving of worth as well as providing time for reflection and prayer.

Nailsworth C of E Primary School is a community which is inspired by the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. God the Father, the source of all being and life; God the Son, who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection; and God the Holy Spirit, who makes Christ known in the world. Worship plays a fundamental part in the life of the school and it is given the highest priority. All members of Nailsworth C of E Primary School (children and all staff) are present during worship.

Legal Framework

Nailsworth C of E Primary School recognises there is a legal requirement for a daily act of collective worship for all pupils that takes account of their age and aptitude. The 1988 Education Reform Act states parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. However, as collective worship occupies such a central place in the life of Nailsworth C of E Primary School, there is an expectation that parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the head teacher to discuss their concerns and requirements.

The governors have the responsibility for ensuring that our school meets the requirements for worship detailed in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Evaluation Document. They are also tasked with monitoring and evaluating the impact worship on the school community in consultation with the head teacher.

Aims

Collective worship at Nailsworth C of E Primary School aims to:

- provide an experience of worship that will offer opportunities for those present to respond to the presence, power and peace of God
- evoke a sense of beauty, awe, wonder.
- enable children to become familiar with the Bible and grow in their appreciation that for Christians it is God's word.
- provide opportunities for reflection, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality.

Owner:	Standards Committee	Delegated To	EG
Review Frequency	2 Years	Updated	May 2016
		Date ratified by Governing Body	May 2016
Version`	1	Next Review	May 2018
Review Author	Liz Geller	Published on Website	Yes

- help children to become familiar with Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the Church year so that they are offered a pattern of meanings and a framework into which they can begin to integrate experience.
- explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers using multi-sensory focii and introduce them to some well known Christian prayers, as well as a variety of prayers of thanksgiving before mealtimes and home time.
- offer opportunities to all children and staff to develop their skills in planning, leading and evaluating the impact of school worship.
- strengthen and support the school community, giving expression to, and reaffirming, the core Christian values which underpin the school's vision, policies, curriculum and moral code.
- develop a sense of self-worth and celebrate the gifts that each child and adult brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God
- reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and learn to appreciate the significance of mystery i.e. that we can't understand and explain everything
- foster a concern for others within the school community and wider world.
- deepen appreciation of the gift of the natural world and the importance of acting responsibly toward the environment
- encourage respect of other people's religious beliefs and practices.

Worship Structure

Day	Group	Time	Led by	Theme
Monday	Whole school	1.10pm	Head/Deputy	Key note worship - Values programme
Tuesday	Whole school	1/10pm	Heaed/Vicar	Following on from key note worhsip
Wednesday	Class worship	1.10pm	Class teachers	Taking the theme a stage further
Thursday	Whole school	2.45pm	Head	Celebration linked to value
Friday	Whole school	10.00am	Open the Book team	Celebration

Open the Book Team

A team of volunteers from local churches bring to the Friday worship a series of stories from old and new testaments using the Lion Storyteller Bible – retold by Bob Hartman. They follow a specific programme organised through the diocese and encourage pupils to reflect on the stories and join in with prayers at the end if they would like to.

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Planning

Our whole school worship is planned around “The Values for Life” programme written by Shahne Vickery, Catherine Coster and Verity Holloway (Primary Schools’ advisers to the dioceses of Gloucester, Bristol and Salisbury). It is a resource to support the teaching of Christian values in Primary Schools. In addition, local and national events, major Christian festivals and multi-faith festivals are incorporated into the worship where appropriate. The planning for collective worship is organised well in advance in conjunction with the Deputy head teacher.

The collective worship evaluation folder is kept on one of the Worship tables in the Hall.

At Nailsworth C of E Primary School, all members of the school community, including children, are equipped to plan and lead acts of worship.

We use different settings and places for worship; classes may use their classrooms or St. Georges Church. When the weather is fine, worship can also take place outside.

The worship space is made special by using the liturgical colours of the seasons of the Church Year on the two worship tables in the Hall incorporating Christian symbols into hall displays and using Children’s own work as a display candles and music help create an inspirational atmosphere.

The liturgical call and response is used - “Peace be with you” “and also with you.” Christian values of the school are identified, expressed and celebrated through collective worship - See Appendix 1

Explicit links are made between Bible stories and the Christian values of our school

There is a range and variety of materials that is available to be used, including: websites, artefacts, stories, drama scripts, artwork, music, songs and film clips.

Support and guidance is given to those leading worship is provided by the Deputy Head.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Nailsworth C of E Primary School has a range of strategies to monitor and evaluate the impact of worship. An evaluation folder is filled out once a week by either a member of staff, a child or a Governor.
- More formal evaluations are made by the local Vicar, the head and Deputy and the Bishop’s Visitor.
- This evidence is collated and shared to improve worship and has led to its strengthening and development within school.

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