



*‘Be the best you can be; together we grow from acorns
to oaks, flourishing in God’s love’*

Trust, Friendship, Respect, Forgiveness, Courage, Truthfulness

CREATIVE WORSHIP POLICY

**Policy Lead
Committee:** Local Academy Committee

In consultation with:

Approved by:

M. Creed, Chair of Committee

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1. Creative Worship and the School's Christian Vision

We value pupils' education and aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that is accessible to all. We do not tolerate discrimination of any kind and our curriculum celebrates the diverse nature of our society, enabling pupils to embrace the world around them – encouraging adherence with the fundamental British values. It also promotes the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at our school and of society, alongside the wider school curriculum.

Our Christian Vision, 'Be the best you can be; together we grow, from acorns to oaks, flourishing in God's love.' is taken from Isaiah 61:3 – Oaks of Righteousness. "They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour." This is a prophecy that looks at all sorts of people from all sorts of backgrounds. We have a real desire and belief that all children from all backgrounds will become magnificent people, making a difference in the world.

In Church of England schools, Collective Worship reflects the traditions of the Church of England and develops learners' understanding of Anglican traditions and practice. Collective Worship is the unique heartbeat of Bream CofE Primary and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, the bible and our Christian values. We hold Collective Worship on daily basis in the form of whole-school gatherings (assembly), classroom worship and Open the Book.

Creative Worship plays a vital part in the education of children. It enables children to reflect on some of the most fundamental questions asked by people whilst developing a sense of awe and wonder. Creative Worship enables the children at Bream CofE Primary School, to develop a sound knowledge of Christianity and, when appropriate, other world religions and worldviews. Children are able to reflect on what it means to have a faith and to develop their own spiritual knowledge and understanding.

At Bream CofE Primary School, our vision puts the children at the centre of all we do. Our understanding of the individual child underpins their learning journey. We have high aspirations for every child and we want to help them to be caring, confident and curious young people, with a passion for learning and the ability to achieve their potential.

Our school curriculum is underpinned by the Christian Values that we hold dear at our school. These are forgiveness, truthfulness, friendship, respect, courage and trust. They help us to support the pupils social, spiritual, emotional and cultural development.

Our aim is to ensure that pupils are prepared for, and have an appreciation of Life in Modern Britain through introducing and discussing British Values:

- Mutual Respect and the Tolerance of those with different faiths and Beliefs.
- Democracy.
- Rule of Law.
- Individual Liberty.



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2. Aims of Collective Worship

2.1 Intent

The principle aim of Collective Worship in our school is to engage pupils with key questions arising from the study of religion, predominantly that of Christianity, so as to promote their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, whilst also celebrating, and demonstrating inclusivity in the wider beliefs, faiths, worldviews, languages and religions of all children and staff at Bream Church of England Primary School.

This is achieved through ensuring that inclusivity is paramount in all Collective Worship through themes relevant to all:

- Age range, abilities and faith of the pupils
- Engaging pupil participation
- Pupils leading
- Use of language
- Images from worldwide church
- Varieties of Style
- Words for prayer as a suggestion
- Careful use of songs

Collective Worship will also help:

- to develop an awareness of spiritual and moral issues in life experiences;
- to develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions and value systems found in Britain;
- develop an understanding of what it means to be committed to a religious tradition;
- be able to reflect on their own experiences and to develop a personal response to the fundamental questions of life;
- develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today;
- have a clear understanding of our Christian Values (Trust, Friendship, Respect, Forgiveness, Courage, Truthfulness) and our Christian Vision (Be the best you can be, together we grow, from acorns to oaks, flourishing in God's love.)
- have respect for other peoples' views and to celebrate the diversity in society.
- Foster positive relations with the wider community and church community residing predominantly in Bream and then in Gloucestershire/nationally.



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2.2 Implementation

The named member of staff responsible for Collective Worship, working in collaboration with the Headteacher and, when appropriate, local/national Church representatives (Local Academy Committee member and/or Parish Priest) is responsible for overseeing the Collective Worship in the school. The role includes:

- Ensuring personal subject knowledge and expertise are kept up-to-date by participating in CPD for Collective Worship and share good practice
- Providing and sourcing in-service training for staff as necessary
- Ensuring the staff are familiar with the syllabus and supporting resources, such as Understanding Christianity, Open the Book, Roots and Fruits, stories from The Lion Storyteller Bible and The Lion Storyteller book of Parables, Explore... in Collective Worship {The Language of Spirituality, Wise Ways for Living and An Artists View of God} [Jumping Fish Publications] and Experience... Lent / Easter / Pentecost / Harvest / Advent / Christmas.
- Supporting and clarifying approach to planning, delivery and assessment being clear about the subject's intent, implementation and impact
- Acquiring and organising appropriate resources, managing a budget when necessary
- Monitoring Collective Worship through regular observations, scrutiny, and pupil voice and be able to discuss impact and standards
- Contributing to the SIAMS self-evaluation process particularly around Strand 7

The Headteacher and Local Academy Committee make sure:

- All pupils make progress in achieving the learning outcomes of the Collective Worship curriculum
- The subject is well led and effectively managed and that standards and achievement in Collective Worship and the quality of the provision are subject to regular and effective self-evaluation
- Those leading Collective Worship are suitably qualified and trained in the subject and have effective and regular opportunities for CPD
- Teachers newly appointed to church schools are provided with support offered by the diocese to enable them to become effective leaders of Collective Worship
- Clear information is provided for parents on the Collective Worship and RE curriculums and the right to withdraw

2.3 Impact

Collective Worship will provide:

- a rhythm of daily worship with space to step away from our target driven world



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- a space to encounter faith in God
- a space to reflect on higher questions of meaning and purpose
- a shared language for the community, especially in times of joy and grief
- an opportunity to celebrate seasons, festivals and special times
- a recognisable structure that helps focus worship on one idea

Creative Worship allows the children at Bream Church of England Primary School space to experience the '*OWs, NOWs and WOWs*' of life, immersion on stories from the Bible (primarily, but not uniquely, through Open the Book, Roots and Fruits, stories from The Lion Storyteller Bible and The Lion Storyteller book of Parables, Explore... in Collective Worship {The Language of Spirituality, Wise Ways for Living and An Artists View of God} [Jumping Fish Publications] and Experience... Lent / Easter / Pentecost / Harvest / Advent / Christmas). Examples of Collective Worship may be collated in the Collective Worship floor book.

Collective Worship and the Ows, Nows, and Wows of life:

- The **Wows** – These are the awe and wonder moments. The times when you want to breathe in and capture the feeling, holding onto it as long as you can.
- The **Ows** - These are the blows life can bring. They can knock the breath out of you.
- The **Nows** - these are the everyday ordinary times:
 - being able to be present in the moment
 - being open and receptive to life... (God is not just for emergencies)

3. Bream Church of England Primary School Values

Each full school term, on a rolling 2-year basis, will cover one school value. A key Biblical verse from either the Old or New Testament will go alongside each value.

Trust - Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Friendship - Proverbs 17:17a - A friend loves at all times.

Respect - 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Forgiveness - Matthew 20:21-22 - The parable of the unmerciful servant ²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' ²² Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

Courage - Joshua 1:9 - Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



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Truthfulness - John 14:6 - Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

4. Bream Church of England Primary School - The Big Questions

The half-termly Big Questions can be guided by the school values, stories which affect us directly or indirectly (e.g. News stories, local community events, bereavement and loss, celebration (e.g. sporting achievements) etc.) or esoteric and world views. Answers to these Big Questions will be collated in the Collective Worship floor book.

Big Question examples:

-  Does prayer work?
-  Is there physical proof in the existence of heaven?
-  If God made mankind in His own image, why are we so diverse?
-  Why do we start wars?
-  How can we be successful custodians of a Creator God's world?

5. Bream Church of England Primary School Daily Worship

5.1 School Prayer

*'Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank you for our school, in the beautiful Forest.
Bless all the people, who help us to be the best that we can be.
Let us show compassion and friendship and forgive us when we do not.
May we flourish from acorns to oaks in your love.
Amen'*

5.2 School Vision

Be the best you can be; together we grow; from acorns to oaks; flourishing in God's love

They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendour. *Isaiah 61:3b*

Then (Jesus) said, "How can I picture God's kingdom for you? What kind of story can I use? It's like an acorn that a man plants in his front yard. It grows into a huge oak tree with thick branches, and eagles build nests in it."
Luke 13:18-19



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5.3 Grace - Before Lunch

'Bless this bunch as they much their lunch, Amen.'

'For food and friends and fellowship, we thank you Lord, Amen.'

'God is great and God is good,

Let us thank him for our food,

By his blessings, we are fed,

Give us Lord, our daily bread.

Amen'

5.4 The Lord's Prayer – at the end of the day.

'Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen'

5.5 Bream Church of England Primary Worship Team

Every term, a representative from each class (year group) will be nominated to be on the Worship Team. They will be responsible for supporting the adult leading the collective worship, leading collective worship themselves and suggesting ideas/themes/questions for collective worship. They are an integral part of Collective Worship at Bream Church of England Primary School.

Their roles will include:

- representing and lead the school at events – for example, at celebration services at St. James's Church.
- welcoming people to collective worship
- reading prayers and passages from the Bible.
- leading collective worship
- being role models in courageous advocacy, spear-heading worthy causes.



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6. Collective Worship & Creative Worship

Creative Worship can fall into one of four spiritual styles:

Word – formal acts of worship, hymns and worship songs with beautiful words, poetry, biblical stories read well, biblical characters and locations being brought to life.

Symbol – quiet times for reflection and 'being at one with God', finding God in nature (outdoor class worship opportunities), looking at imagery and objects which represent something about God or spirituality.

Emotion – clubs and groups linked to worship (Bream Worship Team), singing together as a school, involvement in drama and dance linked to worship and working with others, looking at religious art.

Action – demonstrating courageous advocacy (Bream Green Team), volunteering to help with charity campaigns, welcoming people to worship, helping with practical jobs linked to worship (e.g., preparing the hall, handing out orders of service etc.).

Each of these styles of worship is demonstrated individually and collectively in a myriad of different ways, including: daily worship, termly worship at St. James's Church, annual celebrations at Gloucester Cathedral, Bream, clubs (Bream Green Team, Bream Worship Team).

Collective Worship will also secure understanding in the Timeline of The Bible, through reference to the Big Frieze (Understanding Christianity) and reference to the Core Concepts of The Big Story.



1. GOD



2. CREATION



3. FALL



4. PEOPLE OF GOD



5. INCARNATION



6. GOSPEL



7. SALVATION



8. KINGDOM OF GOD

Collective Worship is as a focal point at annual key Christian festivals.



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Harvest – Celebration of song and readings at St. James's Church.

Christmas – KS2 Christingle Celebration (at Bream Church of England Primary School); KS1 Nativity (at Bream Church of England Primary School). Christingle building and Experience Christmas Bream Church of England Primary School.

Easter - Celebration of song and readings at St. James's Church; Experience Easter at Bream Church of England Primary School.

Pentecost – Experience Pentecost at St. James's Church.

Summer – Year 6 Leavers Celebration at St. James's Church; Year 6 Leavers Celebration at Gloucester Cathedral.

The weekly timetable for Collective Worship at Bream Church of England Primary School

Monday	Whole School Collective Worship based on terms value and/or the terms Big Question.
Tuesday	Open the Book
Wednesday	Collective Worship – The Big Sing!
Thursday	In class Worship based on the terms value and/or answering the terms Big Question.
Friday	Celebration Assembly!

6.1 Planning

We plan our Collective Worship according to:

- Church Year Festivals
- School Values
- School Vision

Resources to aid planning – Roots and Fruits, Explore... Collective Worship, SPCK Assembly scripts, secular events (e.g. Black History Month, World Book Day etc.)

Planning will also consider:

- world events
- festivals
- role of student Worship Team



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- recognition of inclusivity for all and the fact that all classes in our school have children of differing abilities, and so we provide suitable worshipful opportunities for all children according to the ability of the child.

Planning should also consider:



7. Assessment, Recording, Reporting, and Monitoring

The named member of staff responsible for Collective Worship is responsible for monitoring the standards of the Collective Worship and is accountable to the Headteacher and Local Academy Committee. All members of staff are responsible for ensuring high quality Collective Worship is resourced and presented.

7.1 Example of Monitoring & Evaluating Sheet (Explore... Collective Worship)

Date	Leader	Venue	Year Group/Groups
School's Vision			
Theme/Biblical Basis of Worship			
	Highlights	Even better if...	
Gathering Together 			
Learning Together 			
Reflecting & Responding Together 			
Leaving Together 			



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Possible Next Steps

8. Resources

- Roots and Fruits
- Stories from The Lion Storyteller Bible and The Lion Storyteller book of Parables
- Explore... in Collective Worship {The Language of Spirituality, Wise Ways for Living and An Artists View of God} [Jumping Fish Publications]
- Experience... Lent / Easter / Pentecost / Harvest / Advent / Christmas)
- SPCK Assembly scripts

9. Links to Policies and Information

9.1 Policies

This policy supports and is supported by:

- Teaching and Learning Policy.
- Equality Policy.
- Spiritual Moral Social Cultural Policy.
- RE Policy

9.2 Other Sources of Information

- National Curriculum Department of Education.
- The Church of England; Understanding Christianity.
- The Church of England
- Diocese of Gloucester Education
- SIAMS Framework September 2023

This policy is available on the school website: www.breamcofe.co.uk/policies

Paper copies are available on request from the School Office.