

Ireleth St Peter's C of E Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

2026-2027

*Inspiring Successful Partnership
through God's love*

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Collective worship helps our school community to flourish and to "live life in all its fullness" (John 10:10).

1. Purpose and aims

Collective Worship at Ireleth St Peter's CofE Primary School is an important expression of our distinctive Christian character. It brings the whole school community together, creates space for reflection and prayer, and supports pupils and adults in exploring faith, values, spirituality and the big questions of life.

Through Collective Worship, we aim to provide opportunities for everyone in our school community to:

- engage in a shared act of community and belonging;
- encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Christian story;
- express praise and thanksgiving to God, while always allowing an alternative of quiet reflection;
- be still, reflect, pray and develop spiritual awareness;
- explore big questions, current events and significant moments in the Christian calendar;
- deepen understanding of our school values and consider how these shape choices and actions;
- celebrate the gifts, talents, achievements and contributions of others;
- develop respect for people of different faiths, beliefs and worldviews; and
- be inspired to act with compassion, responsibility and courageous advocacy.

2. The character of Collective Worship

Inclusive - Worship is accessible to all members of our school community, whatever their faith, belief or stage of spiritual development. We use language carefully so that faith is not assumed and pupils are able to ask questions, reflect, consent and dissent respectfully.

Invitational - Everyone is invited to participate, but no one is compelled to respond in a particular way. Prayer is offered as an invitation and is accompanied by the option to reflect quietly. We seek to create a welcoming space in which each person can engage with integrity.

Inspiring - Worship should be engaging and thought-provoking. It should encourage pupils and adults to reflect on their own beliefs and convictions, consider the behaviour and actions of themselves and others, and be motivated to make a positive difference.

3. Planning, themes and values

Collective Worship follows a planned programme of themes and also responds appropriately to events within school, the local community, the nation and the wider world. Worship draws on the teachings of Christ, the Bible, the Christian calendar and the life of the Church. The school also recognises important traditions and celebrations from other faiths and worldviews in ways that develop knowledge, respect and understanding.

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Each month has a particular value focus:

Month	Value
September	Friendship
October	Hope
November	Peace
December	Joy
January	Justice
February	Love
March	Perseverance
April	Service
May	Patience
June	Responsibility
July	Thankfulness

Our Christian values are also connected meaningfully with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Worship provides opportunities to explore these values through Christian teaching, lived examples and current events.

4. Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of Collective Worship. The weekly pattern for 2026-2027 is set out below. Exact timings are reflected on class timetables and may be adjusted where necessary for the life of the school.

Day	Led by	Worship focus
Monday	Mrs Gribbin	Liturgical / British Values Worship
Tuesday	All classes / class staff	Class Candle Worship
Wednesday	Mrs Collinge	Value of the Month Worship
Thursday	Mrs Marshall	Liturgical / British Values Worship
Friday AM	Mrs Alexander	Singing Celebration
Friday PM	Mrs Kidson, Acting Head Teacher	Praise Celebration

Collective Worship may take place as a whole school, in classes or in other appropriate groupings. Visitors, including local clergy and representatives of Christian communities, are welcomed to contribute. Wherever possible, staff attend and participate so that worship remains a shared expression of the life and values of the school.

5. Worship in church and the Christian year

The school values its relationship with St Peter's Church. Children take part in worship at church at points throughout the school year and the school marks significant Christian festivals and seasons. These experiences help pupils understand worship as part of the wider life and tradition of the Church.

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6. Pupil participation and leadership

Children are encouraged to participate actively in worship and to take increasing responsibility for aspects of its preparation and leadership. This may include welcoming the community, reading, drama, music, prayer, reflection and helping to prepare the worship space. The Worship Council provides further opportunities for pupil voice, leadership and evaluation and contributes to church services and whole-school worship across the year.

7. Celebration and praise

Friday worship includes opportunities for singing and for celebrating achievement. Praise Celebration recognises effort, progress, contribution, positive choices and the ways in which pupils live out the school's values. Celebration is intended to strengthen community, gratitude and encouragement rather than focus solely on attainment.

8. Right of withdrawal

Parents and carers have the right to request that their child is withdrawn from Collective Worship. Any such request should be made to the Head Teacher. The school will discuss the request sensitively and make suitable arrangements for supervision during the period of withdrawal. A record of withdrawal requests will be maintained by the Head Teacher.

9. Monitoring and evaluation

The quality and impact of Collective Worship are monitored as part of the school's ongoing self-evaluation. Monitoring includes the views of pupils and staff, the contribution of the Worship Council, and oversight from school leaders and governors. Evaluation considers the extent to which worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring; reflects the school's Christian vision and values; develops spirituality; and enables pupils to engage thoughtfully with faith, values and the world around them.

The Governing Body has oversight of this policy. The Head Teacher and those with responsibility for Collective Worship and Religious Education contribute to its implementation, monitoring and review.

10. Policy review

Policy period	2026-2027
Review cycle	Annually
Next review	Summer 2027

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