

### **Our Collective Worship Aims:**

- enable the school community to explore and celebrate the differences and diversity found in the variety of forms of worship in the Anglican Christian tradition;
- explore the school's Christian vision and values and celebrate each unique individual member of the school community as made in the image of God;
- share teachings of the Christian faith for the school community to make an informed choice and to consider their own personal relationship with Jesus Christ;
- encourage all present to explore their own beliefs and understanding of God within a Christian framework
- raise awareness through reflection of the ultimate questions of life relating to matters of faith;
- encourage respect and care for God's created world by promoting a positive attitude to environmental issues locally, nationally and globally;
- seek to provide opportunities for spiritual, social and moral development that is characterised by feelings such as awe, wonder, being uplifted, elation, appreciation, gratitude, respect, and reverence;
- develop a sense of community within the school, the locality, (e.g. local church) and foster the sense of being part of a wider community through the celebration of achievements, festivals and special occasions;
- provide an opportunity to bring personal needs and those of others before God in prayer;
- help children discover their place in the world;
- develop inner awareness, valuing self and the view and opinions of others;
- engage all learners, who should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school.

#### **We will do this through:**

- Using a variety of different methods as vehicles for worship and spiritual growth.
- A carefully planned Collective Worship programme that reflects the vision and values of the school and the Church of England
- Providing opportunities for spiritual, moral and cultural capital development
- A whole school approach to embedding the vision and values that are lived out by all children

### **Collective Worship at Alderman Cogan's CE Primary Academy is INCLUSIVE**

Alderman Cogan's Church of England Primary Academy is a school for everyone, regardless of beliefs. Therefore, during Collective Worship, we are always sensitive to the very wide range of backgrounds and beliefs represented by our school community. This includes:

- those who have, or who come from families with, Christian commitment and belief
- parents who have chosen a church school (or who support its ethos) because they wish their children to experience something of the Christian faith
- members of other faith communities
- those who may not share in any particular religious belief

### **Collective Worship at Alderman Cogan's CE Primary Academy is INVITATIONAL**

Parents, pupils and adults can expect to encounter worship that is consistently invitational. There should be no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship at Alderman Cogan's provides the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. The metaphor of 'warm fires and open doors' captures this idea. The warmth of the fire derives from the clarity and authenticity of the Christian message at its heart. There is no value to an encounter with a watered down, lowest common denominator version of faith. Importantly the door is open, all are welcome to come in and sit as near or as far away from the fire as they feel comfortable. Pupils and adults are always invited to pray if they wish to do so and children are invited to pray in their own way. Prayer is always accompanied by the option to reflect.

### **Collective Worship at Alderman Cogan's CE Primary Academy is INSPIRATIONAL**

Pupils and adults can expect the worship they encounter in our school to be inspirational. Worship is viewed as being formational and transformational: it enables pupils and adults to ask big questions about who we are and why we do what we do. It motivates pupils and adults into action, into thinking differently, and into reflecting on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions. As a result of our inspirational collective worship, children are inspired to become courageous advocates of causes. It should encourage them to think searchingly about their faith, beliefs and/or philosophical convictions.

### Worship Squad Leaders Pupil Voice

"I like being a Worship Squad Leader because I know that I can help people understand what we do. I know how to live out our school values and I can help others to do the same. Worship in our school happens every day and is really important. Worship makes you think, particularly when we have the "I wonder questions or reflection time."

Mia Morfitt Yr 6

### Collective Worship Values Award



Each week during Praise Worship, children from every class are awarded with a Values Award, if they have shown and lived out one of our school values. The children take their awards home and bring them back after the weekend. Their achievement is also celebrated in the school's newsletter within the Collective Worship section.

*"Christian values promote peace and good will among people in accordance with the purposes of God."*

## Alderman Cogan's CE Primary Academy Collective Worship



***Invitational, Inclusive and Inspiring***

### Our Ethos Statement

**Our school and everyone in it belong To God. We are all, 'wonderfully made' by God and loved by Him just as we are. Jesus Christ stands at the centre of all that we do. We will work together to follow His example and seek to be the best people we can be.**

## How We Live Out Our Christian Values

### Peace

Peace includes ideas of healing and health, wholeness and well-being. It refers to relationships based on truth and righteousness. Peace is founded in goodness, decency, justice and morality. It means harmony and security within a community where people flourish because they are nurtured.

'My peace I give you.' (John 14:27)

'Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.' (Psalm 34:14)

'The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.' (Isaiah 32:17)

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.' (Galatians 5:22-23)

### How do we see this in school?

We value all our children as we are all created in the image of God. The caring ethos nurtures all in our community adults and children. Relationships are very strong built on trust. Where individuals or the school as a whole is at peace we see good moral choices and a calm, purposeful learning community. We value each other as people and offer strong pastoral care. We ensure that Collective Worship is invitational and everyone finds the time and space supports them to reflect, be still, be inspired and at peace. Peace is referred to in a variety of ways including within ourselves, the community and the wider world.

### Trust

Trust lies at the heart of all relationships and is central to a cohesive community, living together in harmony. Trust entails vulnerability, putting yourself in others' hands. Trust in God is central to faith. Jesus entrusted his on-going work to his disciples.

'My God is my strength in whom I trust.' (Psalm 18:2)

'I thank Christ Jesus our Lord because he trusted me and gave me this work of serving him. He gives me strength.' (Timothy 1:1-12)

'But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.' (Jeremiah 17:7-8)

### How do we see this value in school?

In our school hymn we sing, 'We will trust our God for the future.' Through Jesus' example, we trust our pupils to take responsibility for leading, behaving and learning. We invite pupils to undertake leadership roles in school, placing trust in pupils to carry out roles with an age appropriate level of responsibility. When children have difficulties they trust adults to help them and support them. Our Positive Learning and Behaviour Policy is based on children learning to self-regulate their behaviour; using Restorative Practice philosophy we talk about children making choices rather than school rules. In the children's learning we trust pupils to be independent, to take responsibility for their own learning. By trusting our children and encouraging children to trust adults, we are teaching them to trust others to build a cohesive community.

We rely on feedback from children and families in relation to Collective Worship. We value this feedback and act on it. Trust and open dialogue with families is well-established, so that where families and children feel they need to withdraw from certain aspects of Collective Worship, this is discussed with the Headteacher and managed seamlessly.

### Friendship

Jesus calls us to be friends with everyone. He was criticised for being the 'friend of sinners' and eating with those whom society rejected. Jesus tells stories of the heavenly banquet to which all are invited and criticised those who refused to recognise that all are included in this community of friendship.

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' (1 Thessalonians 5.11)

'If one falls down, a friend can lift him up.' (Ecclesiastes 4:10)

'And if you are nice only to your friends, you are no better than anyone else. Even the people who don't know God are nice to their friends.' (Matthew 5:47)

### How do we see this in school?

Friendship is very important to children who want to have good friends and be a good friend. Adults model good friendly relationships in school. Children are willing to talk to adults. Children are friendly and Restorative Listeners who listen to other children in the playground to help with any minor disagreements. Through prayer we talk to God as a friend, someone to talk to when we are unhappy or anxious. This is an inclusive school which welcomes children from all backgrounds and circumstances to join our happy school.

We understand Collective Worship is a time for us all to share the same experience. It helps us understand how relationships can work and how they make us feel. Staff use the themes raised in Collective Worship to support children with their emotional literacy, restorative work and resilience with regards to friendships.

### Planning and Organisation of Collective Worship

Themes for Collective Worship are planned by the co-ordinator, the pupil collective worship planning team and foundation governors, using the Roots and Fruits framework as a basis. Planning focuses primarily upon the study of a value as follows:

Half Term	Year A: Roots & Fruits 2	Year B: Roots & Fruits 1
Autumn 1	The Words of Jesus	Thankfulness or Generosity
Autumn 2	Advent & Christmas	Trust or Compassion
Spring 1	People Jesus Meets	Courage or Perseverance
Spring 2	Holy Week & Easter	Justice or Forgiveness
Summer 1	The Parables of Jesus	Service or Friendship
Summer 2	The Miracle of Jesus	Truthfulness or Respect

Whole school Collective Worship is held on 3 days of the week, with key stage or class-based worship held on the two remaining days.

	School Involvement	Theme	Leader
Mon	Whole School	Introduction for the week	HT or DHT
Tues	Whole School	Link focus into own lives	HT or DHT
Wed	Class Worship	Values & impact on our lives	Class Teacher
Thurs	Whole School	Singing	DHT or SLT
Fri	Whole School	Praise Worship	HT

Pupils are involved in the planning and leading of Collective Worship in the following ways:

- Each class may have responsibility for preparing and delivering part of a longer Collective Worship which may be held at Church to celebrate a specific time of year (e.g. Christmas, Easter, Harvest).
- Year 6 prepare and help deliver the act of worship in church that is their Leavers' Service;
- Individual pupils are regularly invited to lead prayers, which pupils of all ages are keen to do;
- Pupils are invited to be volunteers on an 'ad hoc' basis to act out or role play situations/stories.

### Implementation and Delivery

We mark out this special time by lighting three candles (to represent the Trinity), entering and exiting calmly and quietly, having time for stillness and reflection, saying words of welcome and the responses together, singing and listening to music.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan their act of worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a four-stage structure of planning:

- Gathering: we welcome the community with music, liturgy and the lighting of a candle.
- Engaging: we share a Bible reading, followed by an activity to engage pupils with the Christian message
- Responding: pupils discuss, share, reflect, pray or sing
- Sending: we share the message of the worship again and ask pupils to think about how they will impact upon their day, learning and/or behaviour. We close worship with final prayer, music and blowing out the candles.

We are mindful of the variation in personal spiritual styles and provide a range of creative opportunities, including: music, silence, symbolism, drama, ICT etc.



