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**EAST MORTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**Collective Worship Policy**

# **East Morton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School Policy for Collective Worship**

## **Mission Statement**

All are inspired to achieve their full potential in our loving community of life-long learners, where:

- Everyone is valued;
- Every chance is provided for all to flourish in the security of God's love; and
- Every day brings the enjoyment of life in all its fullness.

## *Core Values*

At East Morton, 'Love' is our core value and it is from love which all of our six key values flow:

- Hope
- Peace
- Generosity
- Community
- Wisdom
- Justice

## **Organisation of Collective Worship**

The Staff and Governors of East Morton Church of England Primary School, in accordance with our Trust Deed and with the statutory requirements of the Church of England Education Office, place Collective Worship at the heart of our school's daily life. It is a time when all come together to share Christian values and experiences in our everyday lives and to develop the spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of our staff and pupils.

Worship is organised on a whole school, key stage and class-based basis and is led by different members of the teaching staff, a range of visiting speakers and also the pupils in school. This enables us to provide an exciting and varied approach towards our collective worship and greatly enhances the school's Christian character.

The whole school attends St Luke's Church at least once each term to worship and to reinforce our Church foundation.

The Collective Worship Leader produces a half termly plan for collective worship, which includes the themes to be developed, the visiting speakers and the members of staff responsible for leading Collective Worship.

The weekly Collective Worship timetable is usually organised as follows:

|                  | <b>Main feature of worship</b>   | <b>Worship usually led by</b>               |
|------------------|--|---|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Liturgically based   | Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher           |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Generally Key Stage (KS2 9am, KS1 10am), occasionally Whole School worship – Christian Value based | Class teachers                              |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Visiting speaker – Christian Value based<br>Pupil Worship Council (once each half term)            | Visitors<br>Pupil Worship Council           |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Songs of Praise  | Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher           |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Class based worship (linked to the liturgical theme of Monday's worship)                           | Class teachers and pupils within each class |

## **The Nature of Collective Worship at our School**

### ***Communal and Personal Reflection***

Collective Worship at our school is a time when staff and children meet together and have the opportunity to reflect on the non-material dimensions of our lives together in the school community and as individuals. It is not regarded simply as a time to exchange information or deal with organisational issues. All staff (including office staff) are encouraged to attend Monday's Worship; staff representatives attend on other days.

### ***Praise and prayer***

We give children the opportunity to develop spiritually in the gathering together for daily Worship to praise the awe and wonder of God and the beauty of the world God has created; to pray together, to learn about the teachings of both the Old and New Testament with particular emphasis on the teachings of Jesus and Anglican traditions.

### ***Life Application***

Children are given opportunity to consider what is important in our lives, about beliefs and values, and application of their beliefs to practical situations in their lives. They are taught to understand and respect the beliefs of other cultures and religions.

### ***Family Community***

Through our daily Worship we aim to bring an awareness of what it means to be part of a community which cares for each other, for God and for the environment. In so doing we hope that pupils will develop the ability to explore issues for themselves, be able to reflect upon and learn from experiences and develop a sense of awe and wonder about the wider world whilst understanding their role and responsibilities to their local community.

## **Equal Opportunities**

Staff and Governors are committed to ensuring that opportunities for worship are relevant to all pupils and pay due regard to their ages, abilities and interests. We aim to recognise the equality of each child in God's sight, whatever the child's gender, race, physical or mental ability. Pupils currently take part in collective worship and have opportunities to lead worship, however each parent has the right to withdraw their child for religious reasons.

## **Special Education Needs**

Staff and Governors attempt to ensure that materials and subject matter used in Collective Worship are appropriate for the range of abilities of all pupils in school.

## **Planning**

Collective Worship planning is outlined within the half-termly and includes several features:

- Liturgical theme
- Liturgical colours
- Focus Christian Value
- Bible references
- Suggested non-biblical texts
- Adult responsible for Worship each day

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Strategies staff currently use for assessing the outcomes of collective worship include:

- observation of children's reaction and participation during worship
- feedback from children in class – pupil voice interviews
- Worship Council's termly evaluation
- observation by Governors
- observations of the quality of worship by the Collective Worship Leader

## **Support from our local Anglican Church**

St Luke's Church is actively supportive of worship in school. Members of clergy are regular contributors to worship in school through the Wednesday visitor rota, where they lead the first worship of each half term. In addition to this, the parish 'Open the Book' team lead worship at least twice each half term and this has been a welcome addition.

Clergy from St Luke's also lead regular worship for the children in church, not only for major services such as Christmas and Easter when parents and carers attend, but also for other important Christian festivals and significant dates such as Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day.

Clergy from St Luke's are also involved in the monitoring of Collective Worship through attendance at our termly Governor Open Mornings and through the completion of pupil interviews.

