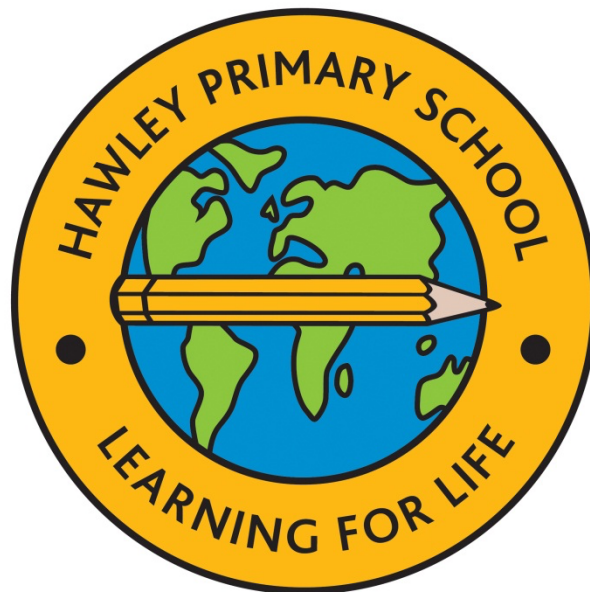


HAWLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

AGREED BY HEADTEACHER: Autumn 2025

LATEST REVIEW: Autumn 2025

NEXT REVIEW: Autumn 2027

Introduction

It is a legal requirement for all children in Hampshire County Council schools that they attend a daily act of collective worship. This act is to be broadly Christian in character but must be non-denominational. It should also reflect the other major religious traditions in Britain.

Aim

Our aim in providing a daily act of Collective Worship at Hawley Primary School is to enhance our ethos, give a spiritual, moral, social and cultural dimension to our school and classroom activities and encourage the children to develop a response to religious experiences.

Our School will be a place:

- For learning where high standards are pursued with consistency and enthusiasm
- Where individuals are valued and helped to achieve their personal best.
- Where effective partnerships secure the success of the school.

Pupils and staff have the opportunity to come together daily to worship and celebrate achievements. Parents and members of the wider school community are welcomed to join these on occasions throughout the year.

Our Vision:

Happy & Healthy

Aiming High

Working Together

Learning to Grow

Encouraging Empathy

Yes, You Can!

Our vision is incorporated into our daily acts of Collective Worship.

Objectives

Collective Worship should give our children the opportunity to:

- Celebrate being a part of our school community.
- Develop an awareness and understanding of the spiritual dimension of life.
- Develop a moral and caring attitude and code of conduct.
- Celebrate work and achievement of themselves and others within the school community.
- Allow a pause for reflection and stillness during the school day.
- Gain knowledge and understanding of aspects of both Christian beliefs and practices, as well as that of other major world religions.

Elements of the following will be included in Collective Worship to provide a time to:

- Become reflective, deep-thinking individuals in a busy and complex society;
- Reaffirm, interpret and put into practice the values of the school.
- Develop a sense of unity, sharing and belonging.

- Deepen their understanding of their culture and recognise that cultural diversity is enriching rather than threatening.

Many acts of Collective Worship will be based on the broad teachings, values and traditions of Christianity.

Content

Collective Worship:

- Must be daily for all registered pupils.
- It can be any time of day but is usually at 2:30pm for KS2 and 2:45pm for KS1. This may vary depending on school events.
- The acts of collective worship reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief and should be non-denominational.
- Regard must be taken of the pupils' ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

Arrangements

Collective worship groupings will include the whole school, key stages and classes. All children at our school will attend the daily act of collective worship (except children who have been legally withdrawn by their parents). The assemblies will be led by members of staff, speakers from outside school and the children themselves. This flexibility is important. It makes sure we can create the right atmosphere in a suitable environment for the pupils in our school.

Themes

Staff will be asked to base their assemblies around monthly and weekly themes, often incorporating a story. These will be reviewed and adapted to include important national events e.g. Olympic Games, World Cup Football, Royal and Historical events, as well as significant celebrations within other faiths. This will also make links to the characteristics of learning, making links between subjects and whole school collective worship time.

Organisation

At Hawley Primary School, a daily act of worship is held for all children Year R to Year 6. To involve children and staff the timetable is as follows:

Monday - Whole School Assembly – Mystery Guest Monday. Hawley Primary School will invite a mystery guest in each week who will aim to encourage and inspire children through an interview style chat about their lives, job and aspirations.

Tuesday - Class assembly- Classes will explore a weekly theme. This will relate to a weekly theme or national/international event of day e.g. National Poetry Day, Remembrance, World Day of Dance. Staff will explore a range of sources to support this worship.

Wednesday - Whole School Assembly – Singing Assembly led by staff on rotation. Songs are chosen to relate to a seasonal theme or aspirational message e.g., Christmas, Harvest.

Thursday - Class assembly- Classes will reflect on their week, identifying positives and setting goals as well as wellbeing messages. This links to the myHappyMind curriculum.

Friday - 'Golden Assembly' linked to the theme of the assemblies for the week and celebrating achievements of our school community.

Prayer within Collective Worship

Reading a prayer can be appropriate if the integrity of all those present is respected. Prayer may be part of the period of reflection and stillness with children invited to participate in prayer if they wish. It is helpful that the language used is:

- Focuses on shared values and character development
- Includes stories, reflections, or themes that are broadly Christian in nature
- Avoids overly denominational or doctrinal language
- Encourages personal reflection rather than requiring specific religious responses
- Respects the diverse backgrounds of your school community

The following phrases may be used:

'Now, a time of stillness and quiet, a chance to think or pray.'

'Let's take this time to close our eyes and think about...'

"Take a moment to consider..."

"We can show respect by..."

"As we go back to our learning, let's remember..."

"Thank you for sharing this time together"

Every effort is made to show sensitivity towards personal faiths and to include all pupils and staff in collective worship. For example, when using a prayer from a particular faith, this will be introduced with sensitivity and pupils will not be required to say or affirm prayers which they do not believe.

Singing within Collective Worship

The act of singing can be a very positive opportunity for celebration or reflection. The selection of songs will respect the integrity of those present.

Right of Withdrawal

We uphold the right of Parents/Carers to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. It is the duty of the Headteacher and the Governing Body to see these arrangements are carried out and alternative arrangements provided. Children withdrawn from Collective Worship read in the School Library until Assembly has finished. Teachers have the right to withdraw from collective worship.