

Pye Bank CE Primary School

'Learning Together, Learning to be Together, Sharing God's Love'



Collective Worship 2026-27



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1. Vision

“Learning together, learning to be together, sharing God’s love”

‘We love, because God first loved us.’ 1 John 4:19

Our vision is to embody the Christian value of **‘love’**, putting the uniqueness and diversity of our children, our staff, our families and our community at the heart of all we do. This is driven by our belief in the value of every individual as an equal, uniquely made in the image of God and loved by him.

With a focus on excellence and equality, we strive for all children to flourish academically and personally through **‘learning together’**, **‘learning to be together’**, and **‘sharing God’s Love’**, addressing all disadvantage and enabling them to make a positive contribution to each other, the life of the school and the wider world, now and in the future.

The children are supported to ‘learn together’ and ‘learn to be together’ through the teaching and promotion of our values of ‘love’, ‘ambition’, ‘kindness’, ‘equality’ and ‘respect’. In this sense, our values are the means in which our vision is expressed in everyday school life and provide a shared language for the outworking of our vision.



Ambition We share the Church of England’s core desire for educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills, and we use the word ‘Ambition’ to represent this. We therefore: • Aim for academic excellence for all children, ensuring that we have the highest expectation of what they can achieve: recognising the full potential of every child in our care and breaking down all barriers. • Inspire and motivate our children, offering a challenging curriculum that is relevant, designed with memory in mind and reflects the values and the diversity of our community.	Kindness God shows us everlasting love and kindness: “I have loved you with an everlasting love. I have drawn you with loving kindness” (Jeremiah 31:3). We are therefore inspired to: • Ensure that school is a happy and safe place for children every day. • Nurture and value every member of the school community, as a unique individual. • Promote the wellbeing of all, including our staff, so they can be at their best for the children.
Respect Christian belief is built on value and dignity of every human being as created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27). We therefore: • Work in true partnership with all our parents, carers, our children and our community. • Respect and nurture individual talents by providing opportunities that broaden experiences within and beyond the classroom.	Equality The Bible teaches that we are called to seek justice and equity for all (Micah 6:8). We therefore: • Always strive to meet the needs of every individual child, rigorously addressing any inequality or disadvantage. • Actively support our children to understand diversity and equality in an age-appropriate way. • Tackle discrimination in all its forms.

Our Collective Worship Policy supports us in fulfilling our vision, our curriculum intent and our theological rationale.

2. Our Context

The school serves a very diverse community with with 98% of our children being from minority ethnic backgrounds. Pye Bank is also very unique in that 98% of the population identify as having a faith, with the vast majority of pupils (82%) being Muslim. They are proud to attend a school church school, as school where faith is important, and are committed to the school’s Christian vision. Our context is seen as providing us with many opportunities and presents us with many reasons to celebrate.

Collective worship is a very important aspect of our daily lives and our work as a school. It helps us to develop trust, respect, reflective thinking and tolerance within our community. It is distinctly Christian in character, reflects the traditions and practices of the Church of England, and is seen as the 'heartbeat' of the school. Whilst rooted in the Christian faith, collective worship is inclusive of all members of our diverse school community and is invitational in nature.

3. Aims of Collective Worship

The school’s aim for collective worship align with the Church of England’s ‘Inclusive, Inspirational, Inspiring Guidance and is underpinned by the following objectives:

Collective worship in a Church of England school will do the following:

- Explore the school’s vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues. In doing so, it will reflect on moral values such as compassion, gratitude, justice, humility, forgiveness and reconciliation; and develop virtues such as resilience, determination and creativity that develop character and contribute to academic progress.

- Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, as well as through the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals and, where appropriate, the Eucharist.
- Enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

It is important to us as a school that all present (pupils, staff and visitors) should feel valued whatever their faith or beliefs with no assumption of a shared religious commitment. Collective worship will acknowledge and respect the responses of individual pupils and provide opportunities for them to express their feelings, delight at life, wonder, and joy.

4. Legal Framework

In accordance with the Education Act 1996, the school provides a daily act of collective worship for all registered pupils, except those withdrawn by their parents/carers.

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided school, collective worship is conducted in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England, as required by the school's Trust Deed.

Collective worship may take place with the whole school gathered together or in separate groups and is regarded as a central expression of the school's Christian vision and values

5. Organisation and Content

The school provides a daily act of collective worship which is of a distinctive Christian and Anglican character and which draws inspiration from a range of faiths, beliefs and traditions. Worship includes prayer, biblical teaching, celebration, reflection and opportunities for spiritual development. Pupils are prepared to participate, listen, watch, discuss, answer questions, sing and share in quiet times.

All collective worship takes the following structure:

Collective Worship at Pye Bank CE Primary School: Invitational, Inclusive, Inspiring <i>'Learning together, learning to be together, sharing God's love'</i>			
 Gather	 Engage	 Respond	 Send
We are invited to prepare our hearts and minds to meet with God We gather together for this special time as a community	We engage in the big things and the little things in life We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible We listen to God's message and consider how it might apply to our lives	We respond to what we have heard and seen through prayer, silence, stillness and reflection	We are sent out to learn together, learn to be together and share God's love. We are all sent out with God's blessing

The weekly timetable is as follows:

- Monday collective worship is led by the Headteacher, and focuses on an element of the school's vision of 'Learning Together, Learning to be Together, Sharing God's Love' and/or the underpinning values of 'ambition', 'kindness', 'equality' and 'respect.' The chosen theme spans a half term.
- Tuesday collective worship is led by Rev. Pip Salmon or Rev. Will Gowers from Christ Church Pitsmoor, who explore themes within the seasonal structure of the Sheffield Diocese [Lights for Our Schools](#) approach.

- Wednesday collective worship is sung worship which follows the seasonal/church calendar outlined in Lights for Our Schools. KS1 sung worship is led by Caroline Slade, Choral Director, at Sheffield Cathedral.
- Thursday collective worship is class-based and teachers use Picture News to develop the children's awareness of current affairs and spark their interest in the world around them. In KS2, the Collective Worship Pupil Council help to lead this worship. See Appendix A for further detail.
- Friday collective worship is celebration worship, where children's achievements are celebrated and certificates are awarded for demonstrating the school's values.

Every collective worship begins with the Pye Bank Prayer, which reinforces the school's vision. Children are invited to join in with the lines in blue:

Pye Bank Prayer

We all belong to Pye Bank School;
We give thanks
 We are proud of our school and we take care of it.
We give thanks
 We show respect to everyone and treat others as we want to be treated.
We give thanks
 We appreciate our families, our teachers and our friends.
We give thanks
 Together we overcome obstacles and achieve our goals;
We give thanks
 Every day we strive to be the best we can be.
Every day we learn together, we learn to be together and we share God's love.
Amen

Every collective worship ends with the Pye Bank closing prayer and children use Makaton symbols to enhance the inclusive element:

Pye Bank Closing Prayer

As we go out into the world, help us to learn together,




learn to be together and share God's love.




Amen

The closing prayer is also said at the end of every lunchtime and the end of every school day.

School holds four multi-faith collective worship during the school year; at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Eid. These are a community event with parent/carers and local faith leaders (priest and imam) invited to attend. We explore the religious festival through the lens of a shared theme (e.g hope, forgiveness) and invite members of different faith groups within our school community to share their beliefs around the theme. They are led by the headteacher, with have input from input from pupils, the clergy and a local imam.

6. Evaluation

The impact and quality of collective worship are regularly monitored and evaluated by:

- the Headteacher and senior leaders;
- members of the Local School Board;
- the school's clergy partners;
- pupils, including the Collective Worship Pupil Council; and
- parents and carers where appropriate.

Monitoring activities may include observation of worship, pupil and staff voice, discussion with governors, review of planning, and evaluation by pupils. Outcomes from monitoring are used to further develop collective worship and ensure that it continues to support the flourishing of all members of the school community.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for ensuring that collective worship is planned, delivered and monitored in accordance with statutory requirements, the school's Christian vision and Church of England guidance.

The Local School Board is responsible for monitoring the provision and impact of collective worship.

Staff, clergy and other approved visitors may lead collective worship and are expected to uphold the school's Christian vision and values.

Pupils are encouraged to participate in the planning, leadership and evaluation of collective worship through the Collective Worship Pupil Council and other leadership opportunities.

8. Withdrawal

Parents/carers have a legal right to withdraw their child, either wholly or partly, from collective worship and are not required to provide a reason for doing so.

The school encourages parents/carers considering withdrawal to discuss any concerns with the Headteacher so that the nature and purpose of collective worship can be explained.

Where a pupil is withdrawn, appropriate supervision arrangements will be made.

We believe that our collective worship is inclusive, invitational and enriching for all pupils and hope that all children will choose to participate

Appendix A Class-Based Collective Worship Plan

Collective Worship at Pye Bank CE Primary School: Invitational, Inclusive, Inspiring <i>'Learning together, learning to be together, sharing God's love'</i>			
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We are invited to prepare our hearts and minds to meet with God We gather together for this special time as a community	We engage in the big things and the little things in life We encounter Jesus and the stories of the Bible We listen to God's message and consider how it might apply to our lives	We respond to what we have heard and seen through prayer, silence, stillness and reflection	We are sent out to learn together, learn to be together and share God's love. We are all sent out with God's blessing
Gather together Create a calm atmosphere (e.g. music, dim the lights, fragrance, chime) Two children lead the Pye Bank Prayer. Light the candle	Share the Picture News picture Invite thoughts and questions- what do you think is happening? Choose some questions from the Picture News PowerPoints to discuss and explore. Share the Bible link Ask some questions to help the children consider how the Bible passage links to the theme and to help them connect it to their own lives and beliefs, and/or to the school values.	Ask the children to consider a key thought or question during a moment of stillness, silence or music and reflection. Invite the children to respond (think, question or act). They could: - Write a prayer or thought on a post it note/postcard/shape - Write a class prayer - Some children to lead a prayer - Create a word wall or graffiti wall - Create a paper chain of prayers - Say the prayer on the Picture News PowerPoint together - Draw a picture - Respond through drama	Send the children out with a key message or thought: - I wonder... - How do you feel about... - Keep thinking about... - This week, notice... - What might you do about... - Don't forget to... Signal that worship has ended: - Closing liturgy: "As we go out into the world, help us to learn together, learn to be together and share God's love, Amen" - Blow out candle
A clear, simple message flows throughout Music, artwork, artefacts, images enrich the session Pupils are involved in planning and leading the session Thoughts, questions, prayers and observations are captured in the class Collective Worship Journal			

