



St John's C of E Infant School Collective worship Policy

Date policy agreed by:	Staff	January 2026
	Governors	January 2026
Review date		January 2028

Our School Vision Let your light shine!

Our vision and values are built upon the values our school community (all stakeholders) decided were the most important Christian values. These are the centre of our focus in educating the children and in all the decisions we make as a school.

St John's is a place where we can grow as life-long learners, understand the value of **trusting** friendships, show **thankfulness** and compassion to others and can make mistakes, knowing that we will be **forgiven**. We can both find **peace** and become **peacemakers** in the knowledge that in **doing so we will let our light shine**.

I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. John 8:12

These words of Jesus are at the heart of our school's vision.
They inspire and motivate our whole school community.

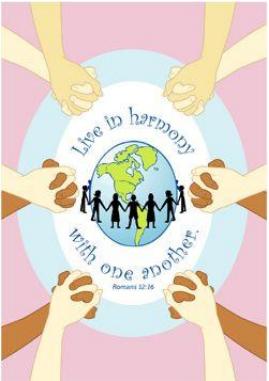
Jesus also reminded us in Matthew's gospel that we are lights for the world.
As we seek to follow him, we can share his light with others and change the world!

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Our School Values:

These values form the foundation of all we do and are prominently displayed and referenced by all members of the community in our everyday conversations with each other. We use the 'Rainbow Rules' to help us choose behaviours that match our Christian ethos and show how the values can be used in our day-to-day lives

Our collective worship both implicitly, and explicitly, demonstrates our Christian values shown below:

					
Thankfulness	Peace	Love and Compassion	Forgiveness	Trust	Friendship
1 Thessalonians 5:18 'Give thanks in all circumstances'	Psalm 34:14 'Do good; seek peace and pursue it.'	1 Peter 3:8 'Live in harmony with one another'	Ephesians 4:32 'Be compassionate and kind to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.'	Proverbs 3:5 'Trust in God with all your heart.'	Ecclesiastes 4:10 'If one falls down, a friend can lift him up'.
Autumn 1 Start of school year Welcome to new families and staff Harvest World Mental Health Week/Young minds	Autumn 2 Remembrance Christmas/Christingle NSPCC 'Speak Out Stay Safe' Anti-Bullying Week Children in need	Spring 1 New Year- New start Valentine's Day	Spring 2 Mothering Sunday Easter Comic/Sports Relief	Summer 1 Surrey CC 'Feeling Good' good	Summer 2 Transition (Junior school)
Food Bank collection	Food Bank collection Christmas cards	Food Bank collection	Food Bank collection Easter Cards	Food Bank collection	Food Bank collection

At St. John's C.E Infant School we consider collective worship to be an important part of the school day. An opportunity to reflect and develop each person's individual spiritual journey. This time is at the heart of our distinctive Christian character. It can also be an opportunity to reflect on personal achievement, development and contributes to the well-being of pupils and staff.

Intent

Aims of our acts of collective worship.

We aim for our collective worship to

- a) Be a daily expression of our school's Christian vision.
- b) Be inclusive, invitational and inspiring for all pupils, staff and parents and visitors
- c) Offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- d) Enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection, the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship, festivals.
- e) Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world, to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and to develop their understanding of the Christian belief in the Trinitarian nature of God and its language.
- f) Enable pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. Leaders of worship, including clergy, have access to regular training.
- g) Encourage local church community partnerships to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship.

Collective worship also includes the educational opportunities for exploration of fundamental British Values, PSHE and SMSC curriculum areas.

- a) the whole community to celebrate;
- b) sharing and experiencing differences;
- c) developing a culture of learning;
- d) building a sense of group identity;
- e) encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
- f) a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- g) learning how to behave in a large social group;
- h) exploring feelings and emotions;
- i) learning how to perform in front of an audience;
- j) learning how to respond to a performance;
- k) making visible the school's leadership;
- l) developing inner awareness.

Guildford Diocesan Board of Education April 2018 63 Legal Requirements

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of collective worship which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and Foundation. The school meets with requirement. This requirement is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

Right of Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus. Parents, who wish to withdraw their child should contact the Headteacher. As an aided school, staff are expected to attend the act of collective worship.

Implementation

Planning of Collective Worship

See **Appendix 1** for the organisation of collective worship for the current academic year. The Headteacher or worship lead plans the themes for the year/term and then creates a half termly plan taking account of school activities, festivals and import events. The person leading the collective worship is expected to plan their worship as carefully as they would a lesson.

There are weekly worship leaders from Year 2 who lead our opening, extinguish the candle, arrange resources, and lead prayers and may be actively involved in the worship. The values leader may also be involved with the worship when focusing on the value they are responsible for leading.

Class worship is planned through our school values using ‘thoughtful questions’ as prompts for reflection. Children in classes take turns to lead in prayer on these occasions

Themes

We take the themes of our Collective Worship from **St. John's C.E Infant School values**. In addition, each term the festivals and events of the Christian calendar are included. Local events such as marking of remembrance at the village memorial take place annually. We will also allow for reflection of any significant national or global events or incidents in order to help our pupils understand how to relate and understand them.

Visitors

We welcome visitors to our collective worship. Some visitors are invited to share their experiences, linked to the theme of the collective worship, other visitors present a whole collective worship on a theme requested by the Headteacher. We welcome ministers from the local churches and organisations. Also local head teachers from schools such as Waverley Abbey.

Festivals and celebrations in the church

At St. John's we celebrate Harvest, Christmas/Christingle, and Easter with services in the church which are attended by parents. Our annual leavers service is also held in the church each July for our Year 2 children.

Prayer

We invite people and pupils to pray during worship as well as given times such as before lunch and at the end of the day. Prayer can be undertaken at anytime in anyplace. Children lead the prayers in our class worship. They also lead prayer in our church services.

Prayer Space

We have created a quiet and peaceful prayer space in the library of our school that children can use to reflect on questions and activities related to our school value. This is developed and planned on a term by term basis following feedback from pupils in our worship times.

Impact

Through careful planning, reflective practise, our inspirational and invitational collective worship provides transformative impact on all stakeholders.

Monitoring, Review and Inspection

Governors are appointed to monitor collective worship termly. These are planned opportunities or by attending our church services. All governors are welcome at any time.

We will seek feedback from all stakeholders, the children through pupil interviews, staff through formal or informal conversations and parents through the annual survey.

The School will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection

Reviewed by SIAMS team governors - Date January 2026

Ratified by Full Governing Body – Date February 2026

To be reviewed – Date January 2028

Appendix 1 Organisation of Collective Worship for the academic year

We hold a daily act of worship in our school, taking various forms: The exact day that the style of worship takes place may vary depending on the activities in the school, and availability of visitors however this is the intended pattern for collective worship;

Day	Type	Leader
Monday	Whole school worship –values based focus each term see long term plan	Marion Stevens Headteacher
Tuesday	Whole School worship – Singing assembly Hymns/songs related to values or themes or events in worship planning	Mrs Georgie Cook (Year 1)
Wednesday	Whole School worship – Visitors Minister Biblical Stories –	Teacher rota or visitor
	Visitors/ minister	Rev. Helen Hancock Rev. Richard Bodle
Thursday	Class worships – Thoughtful questions	Year 2 (Badgers) Year 1 (Foxes) EYFS (Rabbits)
Friday	Whole School worship – celebration Golden Book Birthdays Star learner Achievements Trophies, certificates medals for extracurricular activities	Headteacher or staff member



St John's C of E Infant School
Collective Worship Overview



Value	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Big questions	Thankfulness	Peace	Love and compassion	Forgiveness	Trust	Friendship
Big questions 	What are you truly thankful for each day? Who are you truly thankful for?	How can you be a peacemaker? What does peace feel like?	How do you know you are loved? Who should you show compassion to?	Should you always forgive? Is it easy to forgive?	Who do you trust and why? How do you know you can trust someone?	Is friendship easy? How do you be a good friend?
British Values 	Individual liberty Democracy Rule of law	Rule of law Democracy	Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs Mutual respect	Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs Rule of law	Mutual respect Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs	Mutual respect Individual liberty Tolerance of different faiths and beliefs
Hymns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank you Lord for this new day This little light of mine. If I were a butterfly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Hymns Now Light one Thousand Christmas lights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shine Jesus Shine God made me Jesus loves me 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give me oil in my lamp This little light of mine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He's got the whole world in his hands I will trust in you <p>youtube.com/watch?v=7MjJm8t11bg</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One more step Shalom my friend
Active worship						
Prayers 	School prayer Day by day	School prayer Day by day	School prayer Day by day	Song of blessing Lord's prayer	Song of blessing Lord's prayer	Friendship prayer.