

Grimsargh St Michael's C of E Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16)

Our Vision: Inspiring, Believing and Achieving in our Loving Christian Community

Collective Worship is central to the life of Grimsargh St Michael's Church of England Primary School and is the heartbeat of our school community.

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided School, Collective Worship is an expression of the school's Christian vision and values and provides opportunities for all members of the school community to gather together in worship, reflection, prayer and celebration.

Collective Worship is conducted in accordance with the school's Trust Deed, Church of England guidance and Blackburn Diocese expectations. Worship is inclusive, invitational and inspiring and reflects the Anglican foundation of the school whilst welcoming those of all faiths and none.

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports the flourishing of every member of the school community.

Theology of Collective Worship

At Grimsargh St Michael's, Collective Worship is understood as a response to the presence, love and invitation of God.

Through worship, pupils and adults are invited to encounter God through scripture, prayer, music, silence, reflection and shared experience. Worship enables participants to explore life's big questions, deepen their understanding of Christian faith and reflect upon their relationship with God, others, themselves and the wider world.

Worship is both educational and transformational. Rooted in the Anglican tradition, it supports the flourishing of all and encourages lives shaped by love, hope, grace and service.

Worship Entitlement

All pupils are entitled to experience Collective Worship that:

- Is rooted in the Christian vision.
- Reflects the Anglican foundation of the school.
- Includes opportunities for prayer and reflection.
- Engages with scripture and Christian teaching.
- Supports spiritual growth and flourishing.
- Develops understanding of Christianity as a living faith.
- Provides opportunities for personal response.
- Encourages service and courageous advocacy.
- Is inclusive, invitational and inspiring.
- Encourages every child to let their light shine.

Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship aims to:

- Be a meaningful expression of the Christian vision of the school.
- Enable pupils and adults to flourish spiritually.
- Develop understanding of Christianity as a living faith.
- Encourage reflection on beliefs, values and actions.
- Foster a sense of belonging and community.
- Encourage respect for diversity and difference.
- Develop understanding of Anglican traditions and worship.
- Inspire pupils to live out Christian values.
- Develop courageous advocacy.
- Encourage pupils to let their light shine.

Collective Worship and Flourishing

Collective Worship contributes directly to the Church of England Vision for Education through:

- Wisdom
- Hope
- Community
- Dignity

Collective Worship also reflects the Blackburn Diocese values of:

- Love
- Hope
- Grace
- Service

Through worship, pupils develop spirituality, character, compassion and responsibility.

Spirituality at Grimsargh St Michael's

Windows: Learning About Life

- Beauty and wonder
- Creation
- Joy and gratitude
- Challenge and injustice
- Experiences of awe and wonder
- God's presence in everyday life

Mirrors: Learning From Life

- Reflection
- Meaning and purpose
- Feelings and emotions
- Values and beliefs
- Self-awareness
- Respectful listening

Doors: Learning To Live

- Positive choices
- Compassion
- Service
- Justice
- Courage
- Responsibility

Candles: Letting Our Light Shine

- Living out the vision
- Demonstrating love, hope, grace and service
- Encouraging others
- Being courageous advocates
- Sharing God's love through actions

Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring Worship

Collective Worship is:

Inclusive: Everyone is welcomed and valued regardless of faith, worldview or background.

Invitational: Everyone is invited to participate whilst maintaining freedom of belief and response.

Inspiring: Worship encourages reflection, growth and positive action.

Anglican Distinctiveness

Pupils experience:

- Anglican liturgy
- Christian prayer
- Bible readings
- Worship through music
- Reflection and silence
- Church festivals
- Liturgical colours
- Anglican blessings
- The Trinity
- Church year traditions
- Worship at St Michael's Church
- Clergy-led worship

Pupils also encounter Christianity as a diverse global faith through learning about Christian communities worldwide, exploring a range of denominations and traditions, and engaging with the lived experiences of Christians in different cultural and social contexts.

Structure of Worship

Collective Worship generally follows four stages:

- **Gathering:** Creating a special atmosphere.
- **Engaging:** Encountering scripture, story or theme.
- **Responding:** Reflection, prayer and response.
- **Sending:** Encouraging action and application.

Prayer and Spiritual Development

Pupils have opportunities to:

- Learn traditional prayers.
- Write their own prayers.
- Pray individually and collectively.
- Reflect quietly.
- Participate in spontaneous prayer.
- Respond creatively to worship.

Prayer spaces and reflective areas are maintained throughout school.

Pupil Leadership

Pupils contribute through:

- Leading Worship
- Bible readings
- Prayer leadership
- Planning worship
- Worship evaluation
- Prayer spaces
- Worship displays

- Church services

Pupil voice is central to the development of Collective Worship.

Courageous Advocacy

Collective Worship supports pupils in recognising injustice and responding positively.

Through worship pupils are encouraged to:

- Support those in need.
- Challenge injustice.
- Act compassionately.
- Promote dignity.
- Contribute to the common good.
- Make a positive difference in the world.

Our Five Golden Threads

- **Authenticity:** Worship explores real-life experiences.
- **Vocabulary:** Development of theological and spiritual language.
- **Diversity:** Encountering diverse perspectives.
- **Resilience:** Hope, perseverance and courage.
- **Christian Values:** Love, forgiveness, justice, compassion, grace and service.

Leadership of Collective Worship

The Headteacher holds overall responsibility.

The Collective Worship Leader will:

- Plan worship.
- Coordinate worship leaders.
- Support staff.
- Arrange clergy involvement.
- Monitor impact.
- Maintain resources.
- Develop spirituality.
- Support SIAMS self-evaluation.
- Support our Worship Council

Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact

Monitoring includes:

- Pupil voice
- Worship observations
- Learning walks
- Governor visits
- Staff feedback
- SIAMS self-evaluation

Evaluation focuses on:

- Impact of the Christian vision.

- Spiritual flourishing.
- Understanding of Christianity.
- Engagement with prayer.
- Anglican distinctiveness.
- Pupil wellbeing.
- Behaviour and relationships.
- Courageous advocacy.
- Living out Love, Hope, Grace and Service.

Monitoring outcomes inform school improvement planning.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Collective Worship reflects the school's commitment to dignity, respect and inclusion.

All members of the school community are welcomed and valued as people uniquely created and loved by God.

Parental Right of Withdrawal

Parents retain the legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. The Headteacher will discuss any request and seek an appropriate arrangement.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by:

- Collective Worship Leader
- Senior Leadership Team
- Governors

To ensure alignment with:

- Church of England guidance
- Blackburn Diocese expectations
- SIAMS requirements
- School Development Priorities
- The school's Christian vision

Signed: Helen Smith

Date: July 2026

Review Date: July 2027

Chair of Governors: Wayne Bretherton

Collective Worship Leader: Helen Smith

Approval Committee: Curriculum Committee July 2026

Appendix 1 – Our Spirituality Poster

Spirituality



- Windows – Looking out at the world, experiencing, being aware of the wonders both the 'awe-full' WOWS and the 'awful' OWS
LEARNING ABOUT LIFE
- Mirrors – Looking at and reflecting on how something has resonated with or challenged us both alone and together
LEARNING FROM LIFE
- Doors – An opportunity to consider how God might challenge us to step out and play our part in making a difference in the world, time to act, to respond
LEARNING TO LIVE
- Candles- Living out our vision and encouraging others to let their light shine!

