

**Gateway Federation**  
**Lea Church of England Primary School, Gateway Lodge Nursery and**  
**Gorsley Goffs Primary School.**



**Collective Worship Policy**  
**at Lea Church of England**  
**Primary and Gateway Lodge**  
**Nursery**



|                       |                                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Written by:           | SMT in consultation with staff and governors. |
| Reviewed              | September 2023                                |
| Reviewed              | January 2024                                  |
| Agreed by:<br>Signed: | S Manning & S Vines                           |

**This Policy should be read in conjunction with;**

- RE Subject Statement
- Hereford Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education.
- The National Church of England Education Office [guidance for Collective worship in schools](#).
- Safeguarding Policy
- Promoting British Values Policy

## Introduction

This is the Collective Worship Policy for Lea Church of England (V. A.) Primary and Pre-School.

It was developed through the process of consultation with teaching staff and Governors. All staff are responsible for the implementation of the policy.

## The Nature of Collective Worship

Collective worship is a space where all the pupils and staff, including those of other faiths or non-religious worldviews, can gather together to reflect. This can be as a whole school, as house or year groups or even as a class. Lea Church of England (V. A.) Primary School is a Church School and therefore Christianity and the Anglican foundation is the main focus for worship.

## Our Christian Vision.

The Christian vision of Lea Church of England Primary School can be summed up in two words:

**'EVERYONE COUNTS'**

**Our vision can further be expressed in the following paragraph:**

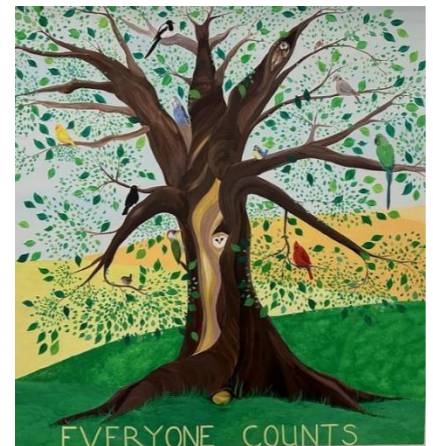
Lea Church of England Primary School is a welcoming, inclusive community where **everyone counts**.

We work tirelessly to promote a strong sense of self-worth in all our children, specifically by encouraging the qualities of curiosity, aspiration and respect. The Christian values that underpin our vision are foundational to the way children and adults here seek to serve and cherish one another, the local community and the world beyond.

**The Christian narrative which inspires our vision:**

The inspiration for our school's vision **Everyone Counts** has been the Parable of the Mustard Seed in the Gospel of Matthew Chapter 13. 31, 32.

Jesus told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is



*the largest of all garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.'*

### **Aims of our Collective Worship**

- To provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God.
- To consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered.
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values.
- To reinforce positive attitudes.
- The Trust Deed requires there to be opportunities for the development of the child morally, socially, educationally and spiritually according to the principles, practices and teachings of the Church of England.

All acts of worship should be inclusive, invitational and inspirational, with pupils encouraged to take an active role. It is an expectation that care will be taken to ensure that the language used by those facilitating our worship avoids assuming faith in all those participating, listening and watching.

Collective worship should not be 'done to' but will involve meaningful contributions from the whole school community, including pupils.

Parents, pupils and adults can expect to encounter worship that is consistently invitational. There should be no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship should provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity.

It is recognised that pupils will bring their own experience to worship.

### **Implementation**

Collective worship is held on a daily basis. All pupils are expected to be present except those whose parents have requested and agreed that they be withdrawn. Supervision is arranged for those who take this option.

Children are encouraged to enter and leave the acts of worship quietly, creating an atmosphere which will be conducive to the whole learning experience.

Collective worship is the responsibility of the Executive Headteacher together with and supported by the Head of School and whole teaching staff, the rector and other ministers.

Our weekly programme for collective worship consists of the following:

- Monday School worship, song and praise based on the Value for the half term and/or events in the Christian calendar and led by Head of School or other teacher. We use Roots and Fruits as the basis of our Values Collective Worship.  
The youngest children in school and those at Nursery, use this time to follow 'Jack in the Box' values assembly, more suitable for the Early Years.
- Tuesday Whole school worship, song and praise. This is our 'Celebration' time - 'Champion Certificates' are awarded to children who have achieved well in some aspect of school life during the week. We also celebrate achievements outside of school. House points and birthdays are also celebrated.
- Wednesday Class Worship. Revisiting Monday's Value worship.
- Thursday Alternate Collective Worships.
- i. Our local Open the Book Team visit and share Bible stories, through drama activities. Our children help to lead and participate in this Collective Worship.
  - ii. Whole school worship through singing led by teachers on rota basis. An opportunity to discuss the meaning of the words in the songs.
- Friday Alternate Collective Worships.
- i. Collective Worship in Houses. Revisiting our Value of the term and focus of the week.
  - ii. Class Worship, using I-sing Pop resource.

Collective worship is linked with the school R.E. teaching and the church's year. It is used to celebrate achievements within and outside the school by the individual groups and whole school. It provides a vehicle for spiritual development, moral, social and cultural development. Collective worship makes opportunities available to all especially in House Group assemblies.

### **Links with local Parish**

We have strong links with our local church, St John The Baptist Church, Lea, which is just across the road from our school. We hold regular services there, celebrating special occasions both in the Church calendar, where the children lead the Services, and also important events in the School Year.

Our Year 6 children also attend the annual Leavers Service at Hereford Cathedral.

Other denominational groups are invited to share and lead whole school acts of worship e.g. the Baptist Church.