

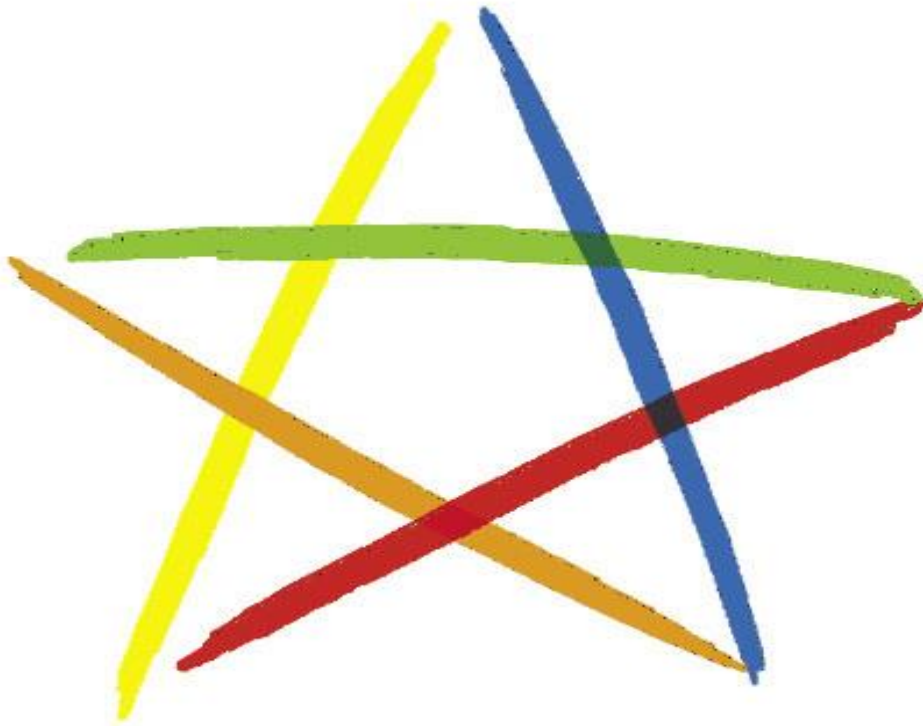
Strive Think Act Respect Shine

Our vision is for all our children to shine like STARS

"Those who are wise will shine like the sky and those who lead others to goodness will shine like the stars forever" *Daniel 12:3*
Through our curriculum we teach our Christian values: courage, friendship, peace, forgiveness, thanks and truth so that our children are prepared spiritually, morally and culturally for life in modern Britain.

Norton C of E Primary School

Collective worship Policy



Strive Think Act Respect Shine

Doc:	Collective Worship	Date Issued:	January 2025
Version:	3	Agreed by Staff:	January 2025
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RATIONALE

The Trust Deed and school ethos statement inform the policy and practice of collective worship in Norton C of E Primary School. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation values and ethos of the school.

Worship is central to the life and purposes of our school and will reflect the Christian understanding of God as Trinity and also encompass our theologically rooted Christian vision in all that we do. This will include belief in God the source of all being and life, belief in Jesus who reveals God's love by his life, death and resurrection and belief in the Holy Spirit who makes the presence of Jesus known in the world.

AIMS

Through collective worship in our school we aim to:

- enable children to flourish through understanding our theologically rooted vision, 'We All Shine Like Stars'
- provide an experience of worship that will allow children to respond to the presence, power and peace of God
 - introduce children to Christian language and symbolism to help them flourish spiritually
 - explore a variety of ways of praying and introduce children to some well known Christian prayers, e.g. Lord's Prayer
 - strengthen and support the school community giving expression to and reaffirming the Christian values of the school
 - celebrate the gifts that each child brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God
 - encourage children to reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and to respond to the wonder and mystery of the world around them
 - foster a concern for others within the school and wider communities
 - foster an appreciation of the created world and an awareness of our responsibility for it.

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STRUCTURE OF WORSHIP AT NORTON

At Norton School the structure of worship focuses on the 'community aspects of the school'. Worship happens daily either as an individual class, key stage or whole school group.

CONTENT OF OUR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Acts of worship at Norton school will provide opportunities for pupils to

- **affirm** some value of ultimate worth, which for some may be God
- **celebrate** in songs, hymns, readings and other ways
- **respond** collectively and individually through statements of belief, prayer, silence or reflection.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude. (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children. Since this is a church school however, worship is central to its life and work and is regarded as a very important part of children's education.

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GUIDELINES FOR THOSE LEADING COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

At Norton Church of England Primary School we value our daily acts of collective worship extremely highly. Through them we identify, affirm and celebrate those ideals and values that we hold to be of central importance to us as a worshipping community.

Each child at Norton is involved in an act of worship every day. These take place in a variety of different groupings:

- Monday - Whole school worship based on our Christian vision**
- Tuesday - Key stage worship based on our Christian value**
- Wednesday - Class worship**
- Thursday - Whole school singing worship**
- Friday - Whole school and parent celebration assembly with worship aspects.**

We invite visitors/parents to join us on Friday afternoons for our Whole School Celebration assembly. This celebrates individual children who have been recognised in each class, sporting achievements, reading achievements, birthdays, worship awards (which link to our Christian values) and is always concluded with the school prayer.

A planning sheet is available to all who lead worship to follow the same structure and keep a consistency across all worships.

The children enter the hall class by class with their teacher and when everyone is ready to begin the worship a member of staff will light a candle and introduce you to the children.

Whilst the children enter, music relevant to the focus of the worship is played.

Lunchtime prayers are said daily and the school prayer is said daily before going home.

In Norton Little Learners preschool they worship through a daily lunchtime prayer, bible stories and worship songs and dances.

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WORSHIP STRUCTURE FOR ALL WORSHIP AT NORTON C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Welcome words:

"Welcome to our worship. Let's start by lighting a candle to remember the holy trinity. God the father (hold up the bible), God the son (the cross) and God the holy spirit (Light the candle)"

School prayer:

Dear Lord,

Support us to be positive as we stretch out and STRIVE hard to reach our goals, and live out our Christian values,

Teach us to THINK about how we treat others and to use kind words and actions,

Always guide us to ACT responsibly when we want something to change in our school,

Remind us to RESPECT and celebrate everyone in our school community,

SHINE your love on us our Lord

Amen

Input:

Content based on the vision/value of the term (could be song/story/poem etc...)

Input from children: Questions or activity for children to do

Song:

Christian value song

Reflection time:

"now we're going to have a few minutes to reflect on today's worship"

(link to the input/question you had and give a few minutes of silence to reflect)

Prayer:

Prayer based on current christian value

Blow out candle

Send children back to class

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COLLECTIVE WORSHIP IN CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOLS MIGHT

INCLUDE

- the use of the Bible (or children's versions of it) being used as a source for inspiration and learning;
- the use of a celebration table as a focus for worship
- creating an appropriate atmosphere which is conducive to the worship of God;
- reflection upon Christian symbols, for example, bread, wine, chalice and cross which might lead to an understanding of Jesus' life and ministry;
- observing the cycle of the Anglican year, Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost also special services from time to time to celebrate important events in the life of the school (some of which might be held in the local church);
- identifying a collection of prayers, hymns and songs which might create a framework for worship within the school. Some of these may have been written by the children;
- providing opportunities for prayer, reflection and silence within the context of worship;
- recognising the value of inviting a range of visitors from the local Christian faith community, including clergy, to share in the worshipping life of the school,
- reflecting the Anglican Church's commitment to ecumenism in a variety of ways, including inviting a range of visitors from other denominations to lead worship;
- sharing a commitment to dialogue with other faiths by celebrating our shared values and beliefs.

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THE VERSION OF THE LORD'S PRAYER USED IN OUR SCHOOL WORSHIP

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,

The power, and the glory, For ever and ever.

Amen

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

Norton Primary School Prayer

Dear Lord,

Support us to be positive as we stretch out and STRIVE hard to reach our goals and live out our Christian values

Teach us to THINK about how we treat others and to use kind words and actions,
Always guide us to ACT responsibly when we want something to change in our school,

Remind us to RESPECT and celebrate everyone in our school community,

SHINE your love on us our Lord

Amen

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RESOURCES

The Gloucester Diocesan RE Resource Centre has a wide range of books, video and artefacts for loan.

Contact 9 College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LX

Tel/Fax: 01452 385217

Email: glosrec@star.co.uk

Opening hours Monday to Friday 12 noon-5.00pm

Late opening until 6.00 Every Thursday

'Space for Reflection'

Collective worship materials published by RE Today includes collective worship outlines and a list of recommended resources.

Contact: RE Today, 1020 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 6LB

Tel: 0121 472 4242 Fax: 0121 472 7575 Email retoday@retoday.org.uk

Websites

A number of websites now exist and others will develop. Have a look at:

www.assemblies.org.uk/

www.natsoc.org.uk/

www.culham.info/index.html

www.christian-aid.org.uk/

www.cafod.org.uk/schools/default.asp

www.resite.org.uk/

www.stapleford-centre.org/

www.prayingeachday.org/

www.reep.org/

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OUR THEOLOGICALLY ROOTED CHRISTIAN VISION

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Daniel 12:3

CHRISTIAN VALUES FOR LIFE

Courage (making links to hope)

Friendship (making links to compassion)

Peace (making links to humility)

Forgiveness (making links to justice)

Thanks (making links to creativity)

Truth (making links to trust)

- Values for life should be taught through worship and daily reflection as well as through curriculum links.
- Values for life should be modelled through our words and actions.
- We should be explicit when talking about these values so that children are able to use them both today and in the future.

Teaching by:

- Drawing on examples from daily life
- Bible stories, particularly Jesus' life
- Daily prayer linked to the value in focus

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WORSHIP EVALUATION

Worship evaluation

Name: _____ Year group: _____ Date: _____

What is the Christian value for this term?

Who was leading the worship?

Who was attending the worship?

What was the main message from the worship?

How engaging did you find the worship and why?

What was the main thing you learnt in the worship?

How was the worship marked out as a special time and place?

Were you given an opportunity to reflect or respond?

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Did you feel inspired to challenge/change/do something after the worship?

How did the worship help you think about our Christian vision of shining like stars?

What was your favourite part of today's worship?

How did you feel after the worship?



Do you have any suggestions for future worships?

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