



Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed: September 2023

Next review: September 2025

We are proud that our school is a church school and seek for our community to be founded upon the moral principles embraced throughout Christianity. As a school we recognise individual choice and welcome individuals from all faiths and those of none. The aim of our collective worship is to install the values, capacities, and attributes that we embrace as a school, and which are rooted in Christian teachings.

Our vision is based on Paul's writings to the Ephesians:

Ephesians 3:17-19

That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

- Our hearts and desires may be pure and positive
- We will feel loved and show love others in our school and in our families
- We will seek to grow in our understanding of all that is around us
- By living our school values, we will find joy and live a more fulfilled life

The vision of the school, along with the values and attributes we seek to instil, form the foundation and the rationale behind our decisions, policies, and procedures as we strive to inspire the hearts and minds of all who work and learn in our school community in order for each individual to thrive and flourish.

Values: courage, thankfulness, compassion, justice, truthfulness, wisdom, forgiveness

Attributes: creativity, reasoning, comprehension, curiosity, perseverance, collaboration, knowledge

Through collective worship, we seek to share the positive influence of our school vision, values and attributes and inspire the hearts and minds of all who work and learn at Abberley to live a life in harmony with the Christian teachings. Additionally, our school procedures are set up to enable pupils to have opportunities to put these values and attributes into practice within the community to improve the relationships and opportunities for all.

In addition to our school vision, values and attributes we also embrace the British values.







British values: democracy, individual liberty, rule of law, tolerance, mutual respect for those of different faiths and beliefs

We explore our understanding of the British values through our programme of collective worship and they are integral to the policies and procedures of our school.

Organisation, nature and delivery of collective worship.

Worship is defined in our school as gathering together to celebrate, learn of and thank God.

Our worship table is located at the front of the school hall and is covered in a cloth to represent the appropriate time period in the Christian calendar. The worship table also has a cross to represent Christianity and 3 candles to represent God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Purple: Penance and Preparation	Red: Sacrifice, the Holy Spirit	Green: Hope, Life and Growth	Gold: Joy and Celebration	White: Purity	No colour: Desolation
					
Purple is used for times of deep thinking and reflection. It is also sometimes used at adult funerals.	Red is used for saints' days who have died as martyrs and also represents the flame of the Holy Spirit.	Green is used to represent quiet growth during the time between festivals and seasons.	Gold used for special occasions.	White represents purity (as opposed to sin which is scarlet). It often represents a season of celebration rather than a day.	On these two days of the year the church is stripped bare of all decoration and flowers.
Used during Advent and Lent	Pentecost/Whitsun Martyr's saints' days	Used throughout Ordinary Time.	Used for special days of celebration, such as Easter Day and Christmas	Used in the seasons of Easter and Christmas and for saints who were not martyred.	Good Friday and Holy Saturday

All of our worship opportunities follow a similar pattern. **The candle** is lit to welcome all those in our community to worship in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **The window** shows what we will be looking at and learning in that particular worship. **The mirror** provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the worship and what it means to us. Are there elements we can improve based on our learning? Do we live by this principle? How have we been inspired? **The door** is the next step that we will take. What are we going to do based on what we have learned?

At the start of each worship a member of the CREW group is appointed to light the 3 candles on the worship table and welcome everyone. Worship always ends with a time of reflection and participants are then invited to join in a prayer.

Collective worship is for all members of our school community. Our local Reverend supports the work of the school and is a regular attendee at collective worship along with school governors and other members of the local community. Throughout the school year visitors may be invited to lead collective worship in school. At significant times in the school calendar the village hall or St Marys church are used to enable the wider local community to be involved in collective worship.

Our school grounds are a wonderful setting for developing spirituality and prayer. There are several areas where all members of the school community have the opportunity to spend time to be peaceful and reflective and enhance their spirituality.

Spiritual development is at the heart of our collective worship and Christian distinctiveness. We seek to develop this capacity to:

- exercise imagination and creativity
- appreciate the beauty of the world
- be alive to experiences of awe and wonder
- be intrigued by mystery
- be aware that many things transcend us
- appreciate and be thankful for what is good in life
- show generosity towards others
- be self-aware
- empathise with the experiences of others
- demonstrate curiosity and open mindedness when exploring life's big questions
- love and care for yourselves
- believe in your potential to achieve
- find inner strength and resilience when facing challenges
- be comfortable with stillness and silence
- be willing to take risks
- reflect and learn from success and failure
- be ready to say sorry when mistakes are made and be willing to forgive others
- be open minded and curious when exploring life's big questions

Themes for our collective worship calendar encompass the schools values, attributes and spiritual capacities, the British values and celebrations from world faiths.

Collective worship is evaluated termly by the CREW group with the outcome of this evaluation being reported to the Christian Distinctiveness Committee which consists of the head teacher, a member of the local clergy, a school governor and a member of school staff.

Our values groups form an important part of collective worship at Abberley. All children in key stage 2 are allowed to select the values group they would like to be involved in. Each group has a different area of responsibility and undertakes activities associated with this. Over the course of the year each group is responsible for delivering collective worship and events within school to promote the ideas and values they represent. Each values group is also responsible for electing a chair and vice chair. The 12 elected children then make up our School Council together with representatives of key stage 1.

Eco and sustainability.

The children consider how we connect and support our world and develop an understanding of how we can live eco friendly sustainable lives. The group are responsible for organising Green Day, energy monitoring, litter picking and managing eco projects within school to care for our planet.

CREW and community.

The children lead on the school values and spirituality through collective worship and are responsible for establishing connections with local community and partnerships in the wider world. They deliver whole school and key stage 1 collective worship. They are responsible for maintaining the school prayer area and evaluating collective worship. The group organise charitable events within school including Children in Need, Comic Relief and tea and toast for the Salvation Army. The children are also responsible for building links with local church and community through services and events such as harvest and carol singing. They also take the lead on establishing partnerships with organisations nationally and internationally.

Gardening and wildlife

The group are responsible for caring and enhancing the school grounds including with wildlife area, gardens and forest school. They also care for the school pets. They deliver projects to encourage local wildlife such as planting, bug homes and bird boxes. They also carry out monitoring projects such as the Big Bird Watch and promote caring for the natural environment.

Library and reading.

This group are responsible for leading the school library improvements and encourage a reading culture around school. They organise the library and create reading displays, read stories to younger children and organise World Book Day.

Friendship and playleaders.

This group are responsible for promoting the values of good friendship within school. They are involved in organising the "Happy Lunchtime" activities and resources. They are also involved in organising and running our programme of house sports events.

Wellbeing and safety.

This group lead on how we prioritise wellbeing, keeping safe, healthy and happy within school. They organise Mental Health week and Safer Internet Day. They help to run lunchtime wellbeing activities and maintain the wellbeing area within school. They are responsible for promoting safe internet use and ensuring the children are aware of how to keep themselves safe online.