



Marden Vale CE Academy

Collective Worship Policy

"With God, all things are possible"
– Matthew 19:26

Policy Date: February 2022

Review Date: February 2025



Our Vision

Imagine a school with a wholly positive environment where children are confident, happy and secure and embraced by Christian values. In this school everyone appreciates and celebrates their own and others' successes. Similarities and differences in each other are recognised and valued helping children to become well-rounded, good citizens of Great Britain (and the wider world). In this school the highest standards of teaching and learning ensure children are challenged to meet their full potential.

This school is Marden Vale CE Academy, where 'With God, all things are possible' (Matthew 19:26)

We value the partnership that exists between school, parents, church and the community and the part that it plays in realising this vision. Through our school vision, ethos and agreed rules and through our curriculum we promote positive, kind and caring relationships. We value skills such as the ability to listen, communicate, recognise and respond to the needs and feelings of others, as well as trying to understand each other's behaviour, offering forgiveness and reconciliation when things go wrong.

We value diversity and encourage an understanding of and respect for people's differences of culture, religion and way of life.

Our curriculum promotes British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those of different faiths, and provide opportunities for children to experience and reflect on the work, worth and worship of our school and its community.

We actively challenge children and adults whose views are 'extreme' and at odds with our Christian and British values. Through our words, actions and influence, we offer our school community inspiring and enriching experiences, empowering them to make a positive contribution to their school, the wider community and throughout their lives in modern Britain.

Our Values

Our vision and values are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy citizens.

Our vision statement is -

With God, all things are possible (Matthew 19:26)

We have six core values which are at the heart of all we do and underpin this vision.

Trust, Thankfulness, Perseverance, Respect, Compassion and Courage.

Each of these values has a focus throughout the year, taking one value each term, in Collective Worship and in reflection areas in classrooms. Our values are also reflected on during candle time and when using our reflection books to guide our thoughts and discussions.

Our children gather every day for collective worship, when they have opportunities to explore their own beliefs, and to praise God. This is also a time when, as a school, we are able to develop a sense of belonging, sharing, caring and responsibility.

Daily acts of collective worship are provided and through these we aim to:

- Provide opportunities for children to worship and explore their own beliefs, and to praise and reach out to God.
- Express praise and gratitude; recognition of vulnerability as humans, pray for oneself and others.
- Reaffirm and practise the aims and values of our school.
- Stimulate reflection and spiritual growth within the school.
- Develop a sense of belonging, sharing, caring and responsibility.
- Celebrate Christian beliefs, ideals, values and experiences.
- Promote feelings of awe and wonder, love, compassion and personal relationships.
- Share emotions such as love, hope, friendship, acceptance, fear, reverence, forgiveness and trust.
- Offer children the time to reflect, respond and have reverence for things which are of worth, and which have great meaning in people's lives

Our Approach

Our acts of worship will take place daily and will be held either in the hall (for whole school or key stage) or in the classrooms, school grounds or in the church. The participation and involvement of the children is positively encouraged. We will achieve this through the use of music, art, poetry, drama, artefacts, reflection and silence. We will include traditional elements of worship such as prayers, hymns and Bible stories,

and may be formal or informal, traditional or experimental. Time will be allowed for thought and silence and opportunities will be provided for pupil involvement. Appropriate language and explanations will be used to enable pupils to understand the content.

Organisation

Arrangements for a daily act of collective worship, at 10:30, are as follows:

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| Monday | Whole school singing practice led by staff on a rota basis. |
| Tuesday | Whole school worship led by staff on a rota basis. |
| Wednesday | Open the Book worship for the whole school. |
| Thursday | Whole school worship led by the Headteacher / Deputy Head |
| Friday | Celebration Assembly celebrating the week's achievements in and out of school led by the Head teacher or Deputy Head |

Right of Withdrawal

The right of parents to withdraw their children from all or part of the act of worship will be respected. Pupils withdrawn will be appropriately occupied within the school. Parents wishing to do so are advised to discuss the matter with the Headteacher in the first instance but are not obliged to state their reasons for so doing. Further guidance is available on the website.

It is expected that staff convey their commitment by participating in and leading worship.

Monitoring

Collective Worship is monitored by the Headteacher and governors through its delivery and via staff, governor and pupil consultation.