



“I can do all this through HIM who gives me strength.” Philippians 4:13

Our Vision is that we strive for excellence in all that we do, working together as a happy community where children develop a life-long love of learning.

At Urchfont CE Primary School, we are committed to providing our children with a curriculum that has a clear intention and impacts positively upon their needs.

Curriculum statement for the teaching and learning of Collective Worship 2021/2022

Intent

In our school, we are committed to offering high quality Collective Worship. We recognise and value Collective Worship as central to fostering a sense of community and to expressing our Christian vision. In practice, this means that structure, planning, evaluation, participation, collaboration, and inspection of worship are all taken seriously and we strive to ensure that Collective Worship is relevant and an essential component of the education that enables all our pupils to flourish and to 'live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

In our school, we live by a particular bible verse “I can do all this through Him who gives me strength” Philippians 4:13. We see Collective Worship as more than a daily 'awe and wonder' moment. It offers a wider opportunity for our children to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together. We want children to leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, and we are committed to offering them an encounter with faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives. Collective Worship in our school, includes prayer, reading and reflecting on the Bible, videos, songs, reflections and the opportunity to ask questions and explore how faith relates to our own lives.

Collective Worship is inclusive and engages all in our school.

Implementation

Collective Worship has changed in format considerably since the beginning of COVID-19. Previously, each day there would be an act of worship when the whole school came together or where a class worshipped together. Children were just beginning to take part in a Worship Warriors group and had started to open worship and lead the children in our opening prayer and in our call and response. Classes took turns to present assemblies with some classes choosing to focus on Christian festivals and key events in the church calendar. Singing played a large part in our worships and we were just beginning to introduce the playing of musical instruments to accompany us in whole-school song.

During COVID-19, we remained in class bubbles and followed the guidance carefully. We were creative with our resources to ensure that Collective Worship remained an integral part of our school week:

- Our HT recorded a video worship for the whole school each week (viewed through our Google classroom to ensure that any children learning at home could also take part).
- A weekly team link was provided for a children's worship by our local Reverend.
- All children took part in class worship each week in school and online to ensure that progressive learning and reflecting was a focus.
- Worship focused on exploring our school values (Courage, Perseverance, Hope and Wisdom) and widened the children's knowledge of Jesus' parables and miracles through story, video, discussion, drama and reflection.

It will be exciting during 2021-2022 to return to whole school worship, singing, class performances and we hope to be able to restart our Worship Warriors with children planning, leading and evaluating worships.

We intend to strengthen our link between home and school through termly Collective Worship newsletters focusing on our values and our class worship reflections. In school, our children will be building on their knowledge of our four values through bible stories each term.

Or example:

Courage: The life story of St Paul, David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lion's Den, Joshua and the Spies, Esther

Perseverance: The Persistent Widow, Lost Sheep, Jesus (himself), Joseph

Hope: Gideon, The Good Shepherd, The Parable of the Sower, Blind Bartemeaus

Wisdom: The Wisdom of King Solomon, The Wise and Foolish Builder

Additionally, this year we are excited to be integrating Picture News with our Roots and Fruits resources among others. This super resource will widen our children's experience of the world outside our community and encourage them to ask and answer 'Big Questions'.

We will continue to celebrate key religious dates within the Christian calendar through class, whole school worships and hope to return to church as soon as we are able to. We feel strongly that the feelings of 'awe and wonder' that our children experience when spending time in church enriches their lives.