



WOODMANSEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Building Strong
Foundations



Unlocking
Potential



Inspiring a
Generation

Collective Worship Policy

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Approved by: Governing Body

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Next Review: December 2028

1. Our School Vision and Theological Foundation

At Woodmansey Church of England Primary School, collective worship sits at the heart of our identity as a Christian community. It is the daily rhythm that nurtures spiritual flourishing, connects us to our theological vision and shapes the way pupils and adults live out our values.

Our vision:

Building Strong Foundations — Unlocking Potential — Inspiring a Generation

This vision is rooted in biblical texts:

- Matthew 7:24–25 — Building Strong Foundations
- John 10:10 — Unlocking Potential
- 1 Timothy 4:12 — Inspiring a Generation

Collective worship enables children and adults to notice the presence of God in the world, reflect deeply on meaning and purpose, and respond with compassion, courage and hope.

This is aligned with our whole-school spirituality model:

Notice → Reflect → Respond.

2. Legal Requirements

Collective worship is provided daily for all pupils under section 70 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and in accordance with the school's trust deed. In this Church of England school, worship reflects our Anglican foundation. Section 71 gives parents/carers the right to withdraw their child from all or part of worship.

3. The Nature of Worship in Our School

Worship at Woodmansey is:

- Inclusive — everyone belongs and participates with integrity.
- Invitational — pupils may pray, reflect or be still in ways meaningful to them.
- Inspirational — worship motivates compassionate action, deep thinking and courageous advocacy.

4. Aims of Collective Worship

Collective worship aims to:

- Provide opportunities for spiritual growth.
- Root daily life in Christian teaching, scripture and Anglican tradition.
- Promote respect, compassion and hope.
- Deepen understanding of the school vision.
- Encourage silence, stillness and reflection.
- Celebrate the uniqueness of each individual.
- Strengthen community belonging.
- Enable exploration of Self, Others, World & Beauty and Beyond.

5. Structure of Worship

Our worship follows the Anglican pattern:

Gathering – Engaging – Responding – Sending.

1. **Gathering:** a distinctive atmosphere is created through silence, candles, imagery or music.
2. **Engaging:** we explore scripture, stories, themes, drama, video, lived experience and the Church Year using 'I wonder...' questions.
3. **Responding:** pupils are invited to reflect, pray, journal, create or commit to an act of kindness, following our Notice → Reflect → Respond model.
4. **Sending:** worship ends with purpose, offering a final message, blessing or challenge to carry forward.

6. Worship Content and Organisation

Worship includes:

- Whole school worship
- Class worship
- Celebration worship
- Outdoor worship
- Church worship
- Pupil-led worship
- Visitor-led worship

Whole school worship is a special opportunity to come together. For this reason, it is important the tone is set prior to pupils entering the hall.

- All blinds shut
- Curtains to the chair store closed
- Projector screen down and projector on
- Hall lights dimmed
- Two benches at the back for Year 6 in front of the temporary classroom area.
- Chairs positioned down the side for staff to join (minimum of 4)
- Small table at the front to create a focal point with a candle ready to be lit

Throughout the week, worship is led by

- Monday - Theme of the Week
- Tuesday - Roots and Fruits providing theological depth
- Wednesday - World & Community
- Thursday - Theme of the Week and Celebration
- Friday - Picture Book Worship to support spiritual development and Christian values through story.

The worship calendar follows the Christian year, including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity and Saints' Days.

To complement this we have a collection of songs which have been chosen to track the rhythm of the year. This can be found in Appendix 1.

We change the colour of our worship cloth to reflect the Church Year.

7. Anglican Distinctiveness

Our Anglican identity is expressed through:

- Use of scripture
- Christian symbols and artefacts
- Lighting and extinguishing candles
- Traditional blessings (in invitational language)
- Celebration of the Church Year
- Partnership with St Peter's Church & Beverley Minster

8. Inclusive Worship Practice

Worship is accessible for all through:

- Multi-sensory experiences
- Creative opportunities
- Clear explanations of Christian traditions
- Invitational prayer
- Support for SEND and emotional needs
- Opportunities for silence and stillness

9. Pupil Leadership in Worship

Pupil leadership deepens understanding of worship. Pupils may:

- Help plan worship
- Lead reflections
- Share readings, drama or prayer
- Prepare the worship space
- Evaluate worship

Participation is always voluntary.

10. Environment and Sacred Spaces

Reflective spaces across school follow Notice → Reflect → Respond. These encourage prayer, stillness and spiritual curiosity.

11. Monitoring and Evaluation

Evaluation includes:

- Pupil voice
- SLT observations
- Governor monitoring
- Planning review

- Visitor feedback
- Review of reflection areas

Evaluation considers how effectively collective worship enables spiritual flourishing and supports pupils in noticing, reflecting and responding to the world around them.

12. Partnerships with Church and Diocese

Worship is enriched through:

- Clergy involvement
- Festivals and services at church
- Diocesan training and resources
- Contributions from the wider Christian community

13. Inclusion, Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Worship respects all beliefs. Prayer is invitational. Language is non-confessional. Worship supports wellbeing, belonging and emotional safety.

14. Withdrawal from Worship

Parents/carers with parental responsibility have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of collective worship. No reason is required. A request should be made in writing to the Headteacher and will be granted without question. The school may offer a meeting to clarify scope and arrangements, but this is not a condition of withdrawal. The request remains in force until withdrawn in writing.

- Withdrawal may be full or partial, including particular services or elements.
- The school will record the request, its scope and the agreed arrangements.
- The pupil will remain on site, be suitably supervised and receive alternative provision that supports spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. It will not be used as additional curriculum time or create additional cost or disruption.
- Parent-provided material may be used only if agreed in advance and consistent with safeguarding and other school policies.
- Where practicable, pupils will remain included in non-religious elements of celebrations and the wider life of the school.
- Withdrawal does not require absence from school. Late arrival, early collection or absence used to avoid worship will be handled under the attendance policy.
- Concerns about collective worship may be raised through the school's complaints procedure.

15. Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years, or sooner if required.

Appendix 1 - Collective Worship Song Spine

Month	Church Year / Focus	Vision Link	Core Songs
September	Belonging, Community & New Beginnings	Building Strong Foundations	• We Are Family • Reach • Who Put The Colours in the Rainbow?
October	Harvest & Creation	Building Strong Foundations	• Cauliflowers Fluffy • All Things Bright and Beautiful • Autumn Days • Harvest Samba • Harvest Rock n Roll
November	Remembrance & Peace	Unlocking Potential	• Sing • Power in Me • A Little Peace • Shalom (Holocaust Memorial)
December	Hope, Joy & Christmas	Inspiring a Generation	• Away in a Manger • Silent Night • Do You Know How Christmas Trees are Grown? • Come and Join the Celebration • This Little Light of Mine

January	Identity, Light & New Starts	Unlocking Potential	• Shine Jesus Shine • I have a Dream • We Are Family • I Am a Small Part of the World • One More Step
February	Love, Compassion & Global Belonging	Unlocking Potential	• I Am a Small Part of the World • One More Step • Make Your Own Kind of Music
March	Lent, Courage & Reflection	Unlocking Potential	• Lord of the Dance • Power in Me • Kum Bay Yah
April	Easter, New Life & Hope	Inspiring a Generation	• Give Me Oil In My Lamp • Kum Bay Yah
May	Aspiration, Growth & Wonder	Building Strong Foundations	• A Million Dreams • I Have a Dream

June	Pentecost, Justice & Advocacy	Inspiring a Generation	• Reach
July	Joy, Reflection & Sending	Inspiring a Generation	• Oh Happy Day • Reach • Sing • Tomorrow