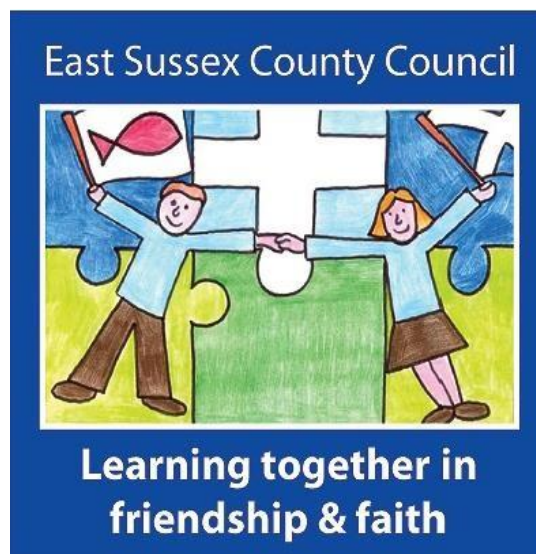


ST. ANDREW'S C.E. INFANTS' SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY May 2026



To be reviewed May 2027

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective worship at St Andrew's aims to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. It aims to encourage and give opportunities for participation and response and to develop community spirit, promoting a common ethos and shared values. Through daily worship we are reinforcing positive attitudes especially of the Christian Values followed by the school.

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (Section 70 and Schedule 20) requires that:

- All registered pupils (apart from those whose parents exercise the right to withdrawal) must on "each school day take part in an act of Collective Worship".
- The daily act of Collective Worship should be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Trust Deeds of the school and the ethos statement in the Instrument of Government and should be consistent with the beliefs and practices of the Church of England.
- **The governing body should ensure that all pupils each day engage meaningfully in a real act of Christian worship which is in accordance with the faith and practice of the Church.**
- All acts of Collective Worship in Church schools must be Christian in character.
- For Collective Worship, pupils can be grouped in various ways: as a whole school, according to age, or in groups (or a combination of groups) which the school uses at other times. Pupils cannot be put into special groups just for Collective Worship.
- Acts of worship must be appropriate for the pupils in that they should take account of the pupils' age, aptitude and family backgrounds.
- The daily act of Collective Worship will normally take place on the school premises. Schools are also able to hold their Act of Collective Worship elsewhere (e.g. the local Parish Church).
- Responsibility for the arrangements for Collective Worship rests with the headteacher.

We do not seek to reinforce religious beliefs but to find areas of shared values to explore and celebrate and we look to affirm the values and ideals we care about as a school. These acts of collective worship serve as a reminder of the school as a community, fostering good personal and social attitudes. We also aim to promote a sense of belonging and encourage a reflective and meaningful response to life. It follows the Church of

England liturgical structure encouraging a distinctive atmosphere. There is a high expectation that all pupils in worship engage and respond to what is heard and to be "sent" out with something to do differently. A candle is lit to signify collective worship time.

To ensure continuity and balance, themes are planned in termly blocks (incorporating our Christian values). Collective worship is led by various members of the school community such as St Andrew's parish priest, Spinnaker and Mustard seed mission.

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| Monday | - | to give children the opportunity to gain knowledge and a sense of understanding about the Christian faith and the Bible. This worship is taken by a member of clergy from St Andrew's Church (when possible) and serves to strengthen the school's links with the local community. It will be linked to the Christian Value for the term. |
| Tuesday | - | Staff led assembly taken from the core Christian values, e.g. friendship. Spinnaker visit every other Tuesday. |
| Wednesday | - | led by a class teacher/Head Teacher to explore and reinforce the value being explored that term |
| Thursday | - | Celebration assembly to improve children's self-esteem to celebrate success both academic, personal and social. To appreciate the talent God has given us and to at times enable class teachers to support the RE curriculum by presenting a class assembly on a topic linked to the curriculum map. |
| Friday | - | To promote the religious aspects of our culture by learning both traditional songs and to enjoy a place to worship using Christian songs. |

Teachers, including the Head Teacher, have the right to withdraw from collective worship on grounds of religious beliefs.

Termly, a Key Stage One Class will present a class worship based on the Christian Value for that term.

Weekly, a Key Stage One class will be 'Worship Leaders' for each form of collective worship. This involves the children leading the prayer/prayers at the end of each worship and evaluating one worship using the school worship evaluation proforma.

Collective worship is a valued part of school life that supports pupils' **spiritual development** within a calm, inclusive and reflective environment. We use the simple imagery of **windows, mirrors, doors and a candle** to help children engage meaningfully with reflection, regardless of their background or belief. Pupil voice is collected during this time and shared on our spirituality boards throughout school.

Foundation Stage Collective Worship terms 1-3

Monday	class worships
Tuesday	staff led worship around one of the core values of the church
Wednesday	class worships
Thursday	celebration worship
Friday	singing with the whole school.

The Vicar of St. Andrew's takes one worship per week.

The Vicar's own programme is based on our Christian Values. During the year, we hold services and celebrations in St. Andrew's Church, and we make use of the church across the Curriculum to further children's appreciation of the building and the part it plays in the Christian faith.

The school prayer is introduced in collective worship and teachers are encouraged to share this, a daily grace said before lunch and the school prayer at the end of the day. The Lord's Prayer is also learnt and used in worship or class times.

Updated May 2026