



**St. Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School**

Dene Road, Ashted, KT21 1EA

**Collective Worship Policy**  
**“Loving God and Loving our Neighbour”**

Responsible Governor	Headteacher
Approved by the Governing Body	Autumn term 2023
Date of Next Review	Autumn term 2025
Chair of Governors signature	

## **Statement of principles**

At St. Giles' C of E Infant School we strive to create a caring Christian ethos where everyone is valued. We have six Christian values which underpins school life at St. Giles' with Love as the overarching value;-

- Thankfulness
- Respect
- Forgiveness
- Courage
- Friendship
- Compassion

In our school our Christian value shapes all we do. We want our children to be happy, healthy, kind and able to achieve beyond all expectations. We create a community in which sensitivity is shown to the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all children.

## **Collective Worship Policy**

At St. Giles' C of E (A) Infant School worship is central to the life of school and is the main platform for exploring the school's vision. It is well planned and of high quality so that the whole school community is engaged on a journey of discovery, exploring the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. For Christians in Church, worship is about honouring God and responding to the loving nature of God as revealed through the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. A school is not a Church but is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds for the purpose of education. The family backgrounds may be very different and collective worship must take account of the varied circumstances of staff and pupils. At St Giles' Infant School collective worship aims to be inspirational, invitational and inclusive and will lead people to a threshold where they can witness worship and join in, if they wish.

Through Collective Worship pupils will be offered a space and a place for the telling of the Christian story. They will be offered an understanding of worship through being invited to participate in or observe prayer, reading and reflection on the Bible, experience of the musical and other imaginative riches of Christianity. Opportunities to reflect on the beauty, joy and pain of the world will be given. Pupils will be given time to consider their responsibilities to others and to grow in love. Time will be given for celebration, both for the accomplishments of school members and to mark the seasonal festivals of the Christian calendar. Pupils will be offered time to be able to contemplate and develop spiritually.

## **How Collective Worship is organised**

### **Venue**

Morning worship is held in the school hall with significant events in the Christian calendar being held in the local parish church (e.g., Harvest, Christmas, Easter, Leavers' Service). We will also visit the church on other occasions during the year to learn more about places of worship and to take part in different events. Sometimes collective worship may be held in classrooms.

### **Leadership**

The Headteacher takes responsibility for organising worship, with all staff involved. From time to time, there will be outside visitors delivering collective worship.

### **Content**

Throughout the week we offer a wide range of collective worship themes:

- We celebrate the children's achievements by awarding a range of certificates linked to learning in class and to our values.
- We deliver Christian based collective worships, with a focus on Bible stories and our values with one led by our Open the Book Team from St. Giles'.
- We have singing worship, where the children learn and enjoy a range of Christian worship songs or songs linked to our values.
- We learn about current affairs using Picture News which focuses on a topic in the news from the week, which is linked to one of the British values.
- We also have worship led by our Faith Council as part of our pupil leadership opportunities
- We celebrate different faiths and cultures, through learning about different religious festivals and celebrations

### **Planning**

The school uses a range of resources to support collective worship.

Our values worship will focus on the half termly value which is planned by the Headteacher. The music subject lead is responsible for organising the songs and the music for entering and exiting worship.

The school follows the 'Picture News' planning for current affairs.

Parents wishing to withdraw their children from worship may do so by contacting the Headteacher. Staff wishing to withdraw from worship may do so in consultation with the Headteacher.

### **Links with other policies:**

- Religious Education
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education
- Teaching and Learning

- Special Educational Needs and Disability
- Equal Opportunities