

Halsall St Cuthbert's Church of England primary school Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

Collective Worship Policy 2025

<u>Introduction</u>

At Halsall St Cuthbert's, collective worship is a special part of each school day. It gives us time to come together as a collective, to pause, reflect, pray and celebrate.

Our school motto, "Let your light shine" (Matthew 5:16), reminds us that everyone has gifts to share. Worship helps us to recognise and use these gifts to make a difference to others.

Our school parable, The Good Samaritan, teaches us about kindness, compassion, and respect for everyone and using our gifts to help us grow and to help others. These values guide our worship and daily lives.

Worship at Halsall is invitational, inspirational and inclusive. Everyone is invited to join in, but no one is forced. We aim to inspire children to think, reflect and act in ways that live out our Christian values.

Aims of Worship

Through collective worship we want to:

- Give time to grow spiritually and reflect.
- Celebrate life, learning and achievements.
- Learn about Christian teaching and values.
- Experience different ways of worship, both in school and in church.
 - Show respect for different faiths and beliefs.
 - Live out our scripture: "Let your light shine."

Weekly Pattern of Worship

We gather for worship every day in different ways:

- Monday Welcome Worship: Led by Miss Hampson, setting the tone for the week with prayer, reflection and celebration.
- Tuesday Infant Worship: Reception and KS1 follow the KS1 worship themes, led by teachers.
- Wednesday KS2 Worship: KS2 follow the KS2 worship themes, led by teachers.
- Reverend Susan's Worship: Every couple of weeks, Reverend Susan leads worship and helps children learn and grow in faith.
- Thursday Prayer, Praise and Presentation: Led by staff, a joyful time for sharing achievements and celebrating learning.
- Friday Hymns and Songs: Singing hymns and favourite worship songs.

Teachers also hold class worship each week, linked to class values, current events or special moments in school life. Although we have suggested Bible focuses and weekly timetables for collective worship which can be accessed on our collective worship website page, staff are always free to change and adapt suggested weekly focus points and the scripture of any given worship to meet the needs of the children. The focus will always include scripture from the Bible and reflect on what we can learn from it.

Worship Themes

Worship follows a suggested weekly focus for both KS1 and KS2. Worships are often linked to the Christian year, Bible stories, Christian values and big life questions. This helps children build understanding as they grow older.

Links with Religious Education Curriculum

Worship often connects with our Questful RE curriculum. For example, when we learn about Christmas or Easter, the same stories and scripture are explored in collective worship. This helps children see the links between faith, scripture, worship and learning, making their experiences deeper and more meaningful.

Church and Services

Worship in church is an important part of our school life:

- KS2 children attend the Eucharist at key points in the year.
- The whole school celebrates Harvest Festival, Family Services and Christmas.
 - Reception and KS1 lead Nativity plays.

These services bring together the school, families, and church community.

Songs and Music

Singing is a big part of our worship. It helps us celebrate, praise and feel joy. Children learn traditional hymns and modern worship songs. Some favourites include:

Great Big God
The Lord Bless You
Trinity Roll up
You raise me up
Count on me

And many more chosen by children and staff throughout the year.

Collective Worship Space and Follow-On Activities

A collective worship table is set up to create a focus for reflection and prayer. This helps mark worship as a special time and space in the school day.

Children often leave worship with a thought for the day or a follow-on task to carry into their learning and life. This might be a small action, a reflection, or a challenge to live out our values during the week. This encourages children to put worship into practice in their everyday lives.

Classrooms also provide a collective worship area or focus space.

Inclusivity

We aim our Collective Worship to always be:

- Invitational –everyone is welcome to join in.
- Inspirational worship encourages us to reflect and act.
- Inclusive children of all faiths, or none, are respected and included.

We also learn how worship looks different in other religions, so children grow in understanding and respect for all. Linking these ideas to important British Values.

Pupil Involvement

Children play an active part in worship by:

- Reading prayers or Bible stories.
- Leading songs, drama, or reflections.
- Helping plan worship through the Pupil Worship Team, which lead worship once every half term.

Monitoring and Review

The impact of worship is seen in the way children respond and reflect in school life. Worship is reviewed regularly by staff, governors and pupils to ensure it remains meaningful, engaging and rooted in our school vision.

Areas of Development

As part of our focus on growing spirituality across the school and wider community in 2025–2026, we are working with the Bees and Butterflies Brigade in Halsall, alongside staff, parents and church to create prayer spaces and quiet spiritual areas within our school grounds.

Saint House points

We have introduced a **Saint House Points System** to provide a positive focus throughout the school week. Children are actively encouraged to demonstrate our Christian values and engage with different areas of the curriculum to earn points for their Saint team. These Saint Houses are also connected to our

Sports Day colour teams, creating meaningful cross-curricular links. Success is shared during whole school gatherings.

St George – red team

St Andrew - blue team

St David - yellow team

St Patrick – green team

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