

Bringing joy...inspiring success!

“I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full.” John
10:10



Collective Worship Policy

Approved by:	The Governing Board	
Written by:	Nicola Alburg	July 2026
Next review due by:	The Headteacher	July 2027

1. Introduction

Collective worship is central to the life of Chalfont St Peter C of E Academy and is an expression of our theologically rooted Christian vision: “Bringing joy... inspiring success” underpinned by John 10:10 (“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”). Our worship programme exists to make that vision lived and visible: to enable pupils to flourish, to nurture their gifts, and to encourage lives lived ‘to the full’ through encounter with Christian belief, values and practice. As a Church of England Academy, leaders are responsible for ensuring and arranging daily collective worship which:

- is provided daily for all registered pupils;
- reflects and actively embodies the school’s Christian vision and the promise of John 10:10;
- is invitational, inclusive and inspiring in character.

This policy sets out our aims, organisation, entitlement, monitoring and evaluation in line with the SIAMS framework and Diocese of Oxford guidance.

2. CSPA aims of collective worship

Collective worship at CSPA aims to:

1. Give pupils and staff regular opportunities to explore and live out the school’s Christian vision (“Bringing joy...inspiring success”) and core values (Generosity, Compassion, Respect, Justice, Faithfulness, Courage, forgiveness, friendship, perseverance, service, thankfulness and trust) in the light of John 10:10.
2. Provide a structured time for spiritual reflection, prayer, stillness and moral development that supports pupils to flourish emotionally, morally and spiritually — consistent with our aim that every pupil might “have life, and have it to the full.”
3. Support pupils’ SMSC development and encourage courageous advocacy and service to others as concrete ways of living the vision and biblical teaching.
4. Enable pupils to understand key Christian beliefs and Anglican traditions in an invitational way, while respecting and learning from other faiths and worldviews present in our community.
5. Ensure collective worship is accessible to all pupils, including those with SEND, EAL pupils and pupils from diverse cultural backgrounds, so that every child has an equal opportunity to engage with our vision and the Christian story.

3. CSPA principles: Invitational, Inclusive, Inspiring

- **Invitational:** pupils and staff are always invited, never coerced. Participation in prayers or responses that refer to our vision or John 10:10 is invited but not required; alternative opportunities for reflection are always available so participation is with integrity.
- **Inclusive:** worship is designed so that pupils and staff of all faiths and none can take part with integrity. Language and practice make explicit how the life-enhancing promise of John 10:10 speaks into universal human longings (hope, belonging, purpose) while presenting the Christian narrative as the foundation of our vision.
- **Inspiring:** acts of worship are formational and transformational — offering opportunities to ask big questions, reflect on how our vision looks in daily life, and be moved to compassionate action in line with the example of Jesus and the teaching of John 10:10.

4. Entitlement and organisation

- Frequency: collective worship is provided every school day and takes place as whole-school, year group or class worship. Each act of worship will make explicit links to our vision and, where appropriate, the biblical message (John 10:10).
- Length: age-appropriate; typically 20 minutes, adapted for specific activities or services.
- Location: school hall, classrooms or church (for specific festivals and special services that mark the Christian year and reinforce our vision).
- Leaders: a range of leaders lead worship including the headteacher, senior and class teachers, RE/Collective Worship lead, clergy, governors and vetted visitors. Pupils are regularly given planned opportunities to plan, lead and evaluate worship, explicitly using the language of our vision and John 10:10.
- Themes: themes are planned around our Christian vision, the liturgical year, core values and curriculum links. The theme sequence will make clear where and how each theme connects to “bringing joy...inspiring success” and to the biblical promise that life in Christ is life in abundance (John 10:10).
- Resources: singing of hymns (traditional and contemporary), Bible readings (including regular and age-appropriate engagement with John 10:10), liturgy, visual aids, music, stories, drama, silence, meditations and pupil contributions.

5. Content and style

- Anglican identity: worship will draw on Anglican tradition (seasons of the Church Year, appropriate liturgical language, prayers such as the Lord’s Prayer) while remaining child-friendly and accessible. Where appropriate liturgy will explicitly reflect the school’s vision and the teaching of John 10:10 so pupils see the theological roots of our values.
- Variety: a planned mix of prayer, reflection, song, Bible story (with explicit and accessible teaching from Scripture), testimony, creative response, and practical encouragement to action (service projects, charitable links) that put our vision into practice.
- Curriculum links: worship will reinforce curriculum learning (SMSC, RE topics, values education, environmental stewardship, digital wellbeing) and show how these connect to our vision and to the biblical idea of flourishing found in John 10:10.
- Pupil voice: pupils will be involved in planning and delivery; pupil leaders and the pupil leadership programme will use the language of the vision and be supported to lead worship that helps peers understand and live the school’s Christian commitments.

6. Right of withdrawal and alternative provision

- Parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from collective worship on religious grounds. The right and the process for withdrawal will be made clear in the school prospectus and on the website.
- Requests for withdrawal will be granted without delay and without the requirement to give reasons. Withdrawn pupils will be supervised and provided with appropriate, safe alternative provision; they must not be withdrawn for other purposes (e.g. extra lessons).
- Where withdrawal requests are frequent, the school will seek dialogue with families to ensure understanding and to review practice where appropriate. In such conversations we will explain how our acts of worship are invitational, how they relate to broader moral education and how the vision (and John 10:10) informs whole-school life.

7. Inclusion, safeguarding and accessibility

- Inclusive practice: worship planning will explicitly consider EAL pupils, pupils with SEND and those with varied cultural and faith backgrounds. Materials will be accessible and multi-modal so that the vision and biblical message are accessible to all.
- Safeguarding: all visitors, including clergy and community contributors, will be briefed, DBS-checked where required and supervised according to school safeguarding procedures. Collective worship is part of school life and will follow the school's safeguarding policy.
- Wellbeing: worship will support pupils' mental health and wellbeing and signpost pastoral support where issues arise. We will use our vision and John 10:10 language to help pupils understand support, hope and resilience as expressions of the Christian story.

8. Roles and responsibilities

Headteacher

- Ensure statutory provision of daily collective worship and that it reflects and actively promotes the school's Christian vision and the biblical promise of John 10:10.
- Maintain overview of quality and lead on inclusion, safeguarding and resourcing.
- Ensure governors are informed of collective worship provision and monitoring outcomes.

Governing Board

- Ensure legal compliance and that collective worship is subject to regular review.
- Monitor the quality and impact of worship through designated link governor and annual reports, explicitly asking how worship is embedding the vision and the biblical message.
- Ensure Collective Worship is included in the school development plan and SIAMS preparation.

RE/Collective Worship Lead

- Lead planning and sequence of themes and resources across the year, ensuring explicit links to vision, values and John 10:10 as theological underpinning.
- Coordinate training and support for staff and pupils who lead worship.
- Maintain a calendar and resource bank; liaise with our local Church and Diocese.
- Lead monitoring and evaluation activities and report termly to SLT and governors, including evidence of how worship contributes to pupils' spiritual development in line with the vision.

Class teachers

- Plan and lead class-based worship in line with agreed themes; facilitate pupil involvement and make explicit links to the vision and Scripture where appropriate.
- Ensure acts of reflection are age-appropriate and inclusive.

Pupil Leaders

- Participate in planning, leading and evaluating worship as part of the pupil leadership programme and help peers understand how worship connects to living "life to the full."

Local Church and governors

- Provide support, resources and appropriate clergy involvement that enhance Anglican character and are sensitive to school context and the articulation of John 10:10.

Visitors

- Briefed in advance; must follow school policy, safeguarding procedures and the invitational approach. Visitors should be given guidance on how their input links to the school vision and biblical foundations.

9. Planning, monitoring and evaluation

Planning

- A yearly outline of themes (including Church Year, values and explicit reference points for John 10:10) will be maintained and shared with staff and governors.
- SMSC opportunities and links with the curriculum will be documented to show how collective worship advances the vision for pupil flourishing.

Monitoring and evaluation

Regular monitoring will include:

- leadership/governor visits to collective worship with a specific focus on how the vision and John 10:10 are made explicit and understood by pupils;
- pupil voice feedback that asks children to describe how worship helps them live the school's vision and how it relates to the idea of flourishing in John 10:10;
- termly reporting to governors that includes examples of impact (pupil reflections, artefacts, photos where appropriate) and areas for development.

Self-evaluation and SIAMS preparation

- Annual SIAMS self-evaluation using the SIAMS lines of enquiry, explicitly mapping strengths and actions to how worship embeds the Christian vision and the biblical message.
- Engagement with the Diocese and ODBE resources and training to improve the quality and theological coherence of collective worship.

10. CPD and resourcing

- All staff involved in leading worship will receive regular CPD that includes theological grounding so leaders can link practice to the school's vision and John 10:10.
- Pupils will be coached and supported in public speaking, liturgy and leading reflection appropriate to their age, with explicit guidance on how to present the biblical message invitationally.
- Budget: governors will ensure resources (books, music, visual aids) and where possible release time for planning and training.

11. Links with other policies and curriculum

Collective worship supports and is supported by:

- RE curriculum and assessment — ensuring theological coherence between taught RE and acts of worship that model the school vision.

- SMSC and personal development — showing how the vision and John 10:10 underpin character education.
- Behaviour, inclusion and safeguarding policies — ensuring worship contributes to a culture where pupils flourish.
- Digital wellbeing when considering use of multimedia and reflections on digital life.

12. Review

- Policy reviewed annually by the headteacher, RE/Collective Worship lead and governors, or sooner if statutory guidance changes.
- Next scheduled review: July 2027.