



“Loving and Learning Together, for Life, as Jesus taught us.”

Leonard Stanley C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Title: Collective Worship Policy

Person(s) who created policy: Head teacher/Staff/Governors

Date reviewed: March 2025

Review Frequency: Biennial

Date for next review: March 2027

'Loving and Learning together, for Life, as Jesus Taught us'

At Leonard Stanley, our aim is to empower every individual to flourish and make a positive impact on their community, guided by Jesus' love and teachings. We foster an environment where everyone is valued and inspired to excel academically, spiritually, and emotionally, equipping them with confidence and faith to face life's challenges together.

Our vision is rooted in the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:12-14) which illustrates God's immense love and care for each individual. In the parable, a shepherd leaves his flock of sheep to search for one that has gone astray. When he finds the lost sheep, he rejoices greatly and celebrates its return, reflecting our core belief that every person in our community matters.

Introduction

Leonard Stanley Primary School is a Church of England (Aided) School. According to the provision of the Trust Deed, collective worship given must be Anglican. There are foundation governors appointed by the diocese, and the governing body has a responsibility to control the nature of worship within the school. Parents have a legal right to withdraw their child from acts of collective worship. Under the 1988 Education Act, worship must take place daily but does not have to be at any specific time of the day.

Arrangements for Withdrawal

The School Prospectus states that parents have the legal right to withdraw their child from acts of collective worship and that any wishing to do so should contact the head teacher. Should any parent exercise this right, arrangements would be made for the child to work quietly either in their classroom or another suitable supervised location.

The Aims of Worship

Collective worship at Leonard Stanley School aims to:

- i) help children to develop the common standards, attitudes and values that are fundamental to the Christian faith;
- ii) provide regular time and opportunities for reflection and prayer in which to express our praise and thanksgiving to God;
- iii) develop an awareness of and a concern for the needs of others as well as personal needs;
- iv) develop community spirit and share with others the things we have been doing, our thoughts and ideas

Elements of Worship

The three elements of worship: reflection, celebration and response are included in our daily acts of worship. Reflection provides the children with the opportunity to reflect some value of ultimate worth, such as the importance of each person, which for Christians would be expressed in the image of God and/or Jesus. The act of celebration is designed to mark what is affirmed through music, drama, reading, dance or acknowledgement of effort or achievement. Response is encouraged either collectively or individually through prayer or silent reflection.

The Daily Act of Worship

Every week there are daily acts of whole school worship, emphasising the unity of the school. A leader from the local church (St Swithun's) leads an act of worship each week. This is often in the form of the Open the Book team, as one of our foundation governors is a leading member and church warden.

Each worship begins with an altar, and prayers are recited to reflect the cross, the Bible and the candle. This is followed by our school prayer, which is said and signed (BSL)

In the hall, there is a wooden cross as a focal point for the act of worship, and to encourage an atmosphere of reflection, a candle is lit. Guidance and encouragement help the children focus on the act of worship. The children play a pivotal role in all collective worship sessions.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Religious Theme	Class-based worship	Open the Book	Value or spirituality theme with added opportunities to learn new hymns	Celebration Assembly
Headteacher	Class teachers		HT or Other	Deputy Head

There is a detailed collective worship planner in place for the school year.

Role of the Collective Worship Leader

The CW Leader is responsible for supporting staff in their planning of worship where necessary. A list of significant dates in the Christian calendar is supplied to staff by the CW Leader. The CW Leader is also responsible for organising and replenishing resources.

Evaluation of Worship

The quality of worship in school is evaluated by the bishop's visitor on his annual visit and is also commented on during governor visits. Pupils' responses to worship are gathered through the pupil feedback / conferencing / questionnaire evaluations and collated in the CW Leaders' file to be fed back to staff / governors, etc. The pupil collective worship evaluations are used as part of our response to collective worship and one of our strategies to improve it.

Liturgical Colours 2026

JANUARY 2026

1 Jan – 5 Jan — Christmas season → **White**

6 Jan — Epiphany → **White**

7 Jan – 30 Jan — Epiphany season (Ordinary Time) → **Green**

31 Jan — Eve of Candlemas → **White**

FEBRUARY 2026

1 Feb — Sunday before Lent (Septuagesima) → **Green**

2 Feb — Candlemas (Presentation) → **White**

3–16 Feb — Pre-Lent weeks → **Green**

17 Feb — **Ash Wednesday** → **Purple**

18–28 Feb — Lent → **Purple**

MARCH 2026

1–28 Mar — Lent continues → **Purple**

29 Mar — Palm Sunday → **Red**

30–31 Mar — Holy Week (Mon–Tue) → **Purple**

APRIL 2026

1 Apr — Holy Week (Wed) → **Purple**
2 Apr — Maundy Thursday → **White**
3 Apr — Good Friday → **Red** (or **Black**)
4 Apr — Holy Saturday → **Purple**
5 Apr — **Easter Day** → **White/Gold**
6–11 Apr — Easter Week → **White**
12–30 Apr — Easter season → **White**

MAY 2026

Easter season continues:

1–16 May — Eastertide → **White**
17 May — Pentecost Sunday → **Red**
18–31 May — After Pentecost (Ordinary Time) begins → **Green**

JUNE 2026

Entire month → **Green** (Ordinary Time)

JULY 2026

Entire month → **Green** (Ordinary Time)

AUGUST 2026

Entire month → **Green** (Ordinary Time)

SEPTEMBER 2026

Entire month → **Green** (Ordinary Time)

OCTOBER 2026

Entire month → **Green** (Ordinary Time)

NOVEMBER 2026

1–21 Nov — Ordinary Time → **Green**

22 Nov — Christ the King → **White**

29 Nov — Advent 1 → **Purple**

DECEMBER 2026

1–23 Dec — Advent continues → **Purple**

24 Dec — Christmas Eve → **White**

25 Dec — Christmas Day → **White/Gold**

26–31 Dec — Christmas season → **White**