

# UPPERBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



### School Details

Headteacher:	Mrs P Burns
Co-Chair of Governors:	Mr W Atkinson & Miss R Mason
Policy Date:	November 2025
Policy Review Cycle:	Bi-annually
Next Review Date:	November 2027

### Introduction

At Upperby Primary School, we recognise that collective worship is an important part of our curriculum. Collective worship is carried out mainly through assemblies. It may be in the form of class assemblies or assemblies where we gather as a whole school, phase or year group. Our assemblies are an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to reflect together as a class, phase or community. Staff take part in phase collective worship on a rota system, but all staff are welcome to attend any of the school assemblies.

### Aims

It is our aim at Upperby Primary School that worship should:

- Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child.
- Give expression to, and reaffirm and practice the values of the school community.
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others.
- Provide a foundation for an understanding and practice of worship in the future. The assemblies are of a broadly Christian character however they are not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

### Legal Status of Collective Worship

The 1988 Education Reform Act requires that “all pupils in attendance at a maintained school shall on each day take part in an act of Collective Worship”. We seek to do our best to keep the spirit of this legislation seeking to provide as many high-quality acts of worship as is practically possible.

To provide students with a variety in their experience of worship acts of worship may take the form of a whole school assembly for staff and pupils or separate acts of worship for students in different age groups or school groups. Collective Worship may be held at any time during the school day. The head teacher is responsible for arranging school worship in school with the support of all members of staff. The school encourages assemblies to be taken by local church leaders each term.

Acts of Collective Worship at Upperby Primary School consider the student’s ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds.

### Rights of Withdrawal

At Upperby Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship – particularly on significant

religious occasions (e.g. Christmas). Withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the head teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

The school has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. However, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

All teachers, including the head teacher, have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship, but the head teacher, should she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship.

The right of withdrawal doesn't extend to assemblies.

### **Planning, Recording and Evaluation**

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing and evaluation. The school organises assemblies each week to cover different aspects and staff are encouraged to cover a range of themes. This pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that teachers may feel that they need to respond to local or national events.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The head teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of this policy. The policy will be reviewed every two years.

This policy was agreed by the governing body on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025.

Date of next review – November 2027.