

# Wendron

C of E Primary School



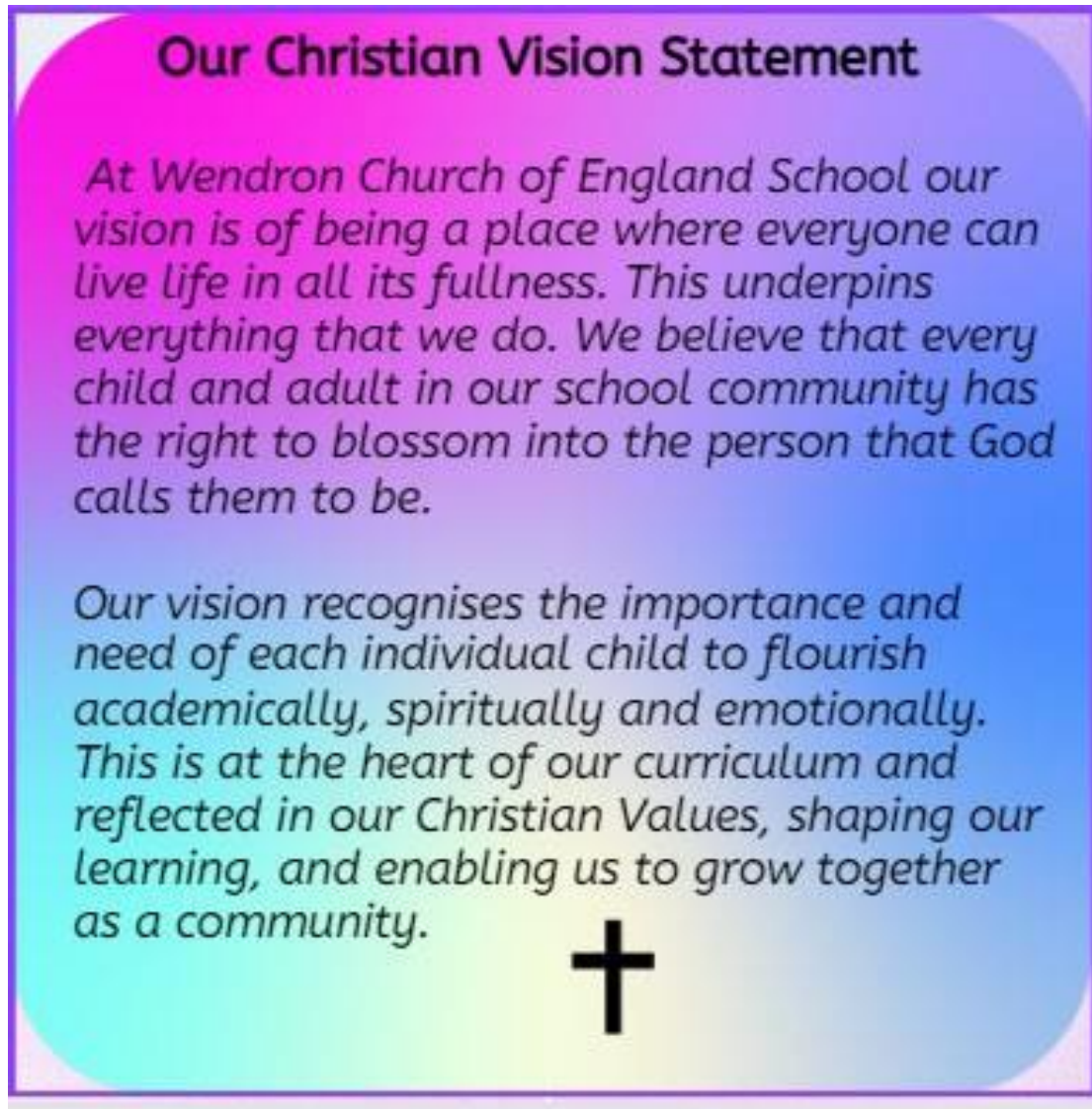
# Collective Worship

Version Number	1.3
Date Adopted by Governors	Feb 2025
Scheduled Review Date	Feb 2027
Statutory or Best Practice Policy	Best Practice
School or Trust Policy	School

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01637 303106 or email [info@kernowlearning.co.uk](mailto:info@kernowlearning.co.uk).

Our school vision is that that every child will 'be the best they can be' following the mantra is:

***"To live life, life in all its fullness"*** John 10:10



This is illustrated with the Parable of the Sower which shows that we can meet our potential when we have faith and flourish this is symbolized by the seeds that fell on the good soil.

## Key Principles

At Wendron C of E Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life. Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our mission statement.

Our school serves a rural community in an almost totally Christian area of the south-west of England. The ethnic/religious survey shows that most of the pupils and their parents are white and Christian. However it is one of our aims to offer a broad education, to prepare pupils for life not only in their own community but the wider world. Our children come from a range of backgrounds, many displaying a wide range of needs. We work hard to provide support in many ways e.g counselling.

Worship is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly.

The children are taught to learn from their difficulties and challenges.

## Christian Values

Although difficult to define, we identify the values of:-

**Respect Hope Thankfulness Trust Perseverance Wisdom**

Through collective worship we also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder (spirituality) and reflection. Spirituality at our school has been defined by one of our pupils as 'A special connection.'

## Values Education

We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally, spiritually and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

## Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1)

and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.

As Wendron is a C of E school, collective worship will be broadly in line with the Trust Deed. As well as the statutory considerable input from the Church of England, with particular reference to the main festivals of the church, the mainly Christian character of collective worship has been greatly enhanced by participation of the local Methodist Churches and by a variety of other Christian churches and people.

Collective worship is an essential element in the schools' promotion of the spiritual and moral development of pupils as required by ERA 1988. Through the experience of daily worship, and the contents of it, pupils are given the opportunity to develop an awareness of life which sees the world from an explicitly Christian viewpoint, based upon a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

## Aims of Collective Worship

These have been agreed with the governors to be the following:

- to provide an opportunity for pupils to worship God
- to establish, affirm, and celebrate the common and shared values of the school
- to nurture the identity and nature of the school as a community
- to develop positive attitudes among the pupils
- to enable pupils to come to terms with their own beliefs, values and commitments, and with those of others
- in short to promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils

## Approach

Daily worship is provided through the following means:

- acts of worship in class group
- acts of worship by whole school assemblies
- whole school acts of worship in assembly

When possible we show and discuss where our worship connects to our Understanding Christianity frieze displayed in the hall.

## Organisations

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Worship is delivered by a range of people including a Baptist, Our Anglican Vicar and a free Methodist. Our current schedule is as follows:

**Monday/Wednesday/Thursday-** The themes for Monday's collective worship reflect our Values focus for that half term, the Church calendar, our school ethos and current events. The worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music for the week. The title of this piece of music is shared with the children and could come from a variety of cultures. The children are regularly involved in the worship, which finishes with a prayer. The children then lead out as the music is played.

**Tuesday-** Music and Hymn Assembly

**Friday-** Praise Assembly usually led by the Head Teacher or Assistant Head. Wendron celebrates the children's achievements both in and outside school. Each class Teacher selects a Citizen of the Week, someone who has followed the schools 6P's and sets a good example. Children also receive any school certificates/prizes gained for their achievements. Celebration songs are sung and finished with the school prayer.

Once a half-term the children belonging to the **Worship Warriors** lead worship based on the value for that half term.

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship. We aim to include the children in the planning and deliver of our Collective Worship, wherever possible.

The worship should last approximately 15 minutes. Planning, Content and Detail except for Praise/Celebration assembly which can be slightly longer.

Year 6 pupils record the content of each worship.

## Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer, The School Prayer and prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. The school is actively developing the children's confidence in reciting simple liturgy. At the beginning of the whole school worship led by the Head teacher or Assistant Head, a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by either an adult or child in each class. Prayers are also said at the end of the school day. These prayers are specific to each class.

We have an indoor and outdoor Spirituality/Reflective Area. The children may like to engage with the activity there.

Children can use these spaces if they need a moment to reflect during the school day. They may focus on spirituality through "a special connection" that they have made.

The school has a table, in the entrance area of the school. It contains the school prayer, school spirituality book and often work from the children connected to the value of the half term.

We often visit Wendron Church which is within walking distance for services and

activities.

## Other Faiths

At Wendron our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values and we are also committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs.

## Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship. Evaluations are also recorded here. Monitoring in the form of sentence starters may be used at the end of a worship. Some of the children's responses may be recorded by the Y6's in the monitoring file. Pupil conferencing takes place annually.

## Visits and Visitors

As part of the curriculum, Wendron ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship.

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. Wendron Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' Services. Parents/Governors/Diocesan Liaison and Local Community Issues  
Children may be withdrawn from R.E. lessons at the wish of their parents. The Head teacher will ensure that suitable provision is made for such pupils.