Collective Worship Policy

St Luke's CoE Primary School

Our Vision:

Love God. Love your neighbour as yourself: Be the Good Samaritan. Luke 10. 25-37

Inspired by Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan, we live out our love for God through collective worship and meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth. Rooted in God's unconditional love, we treat everyone with respect and compassion, nurturing a safe, loving, inclusive school where everyone belongs. Learning together, we flourish and reach our full potential. We empower each other to make positive change for the community we share.

At St Luke's, we **Love, Include, Flourish**, and **Empower** – our **L.I.F.E.** principles.

Introduction

At St Luke's, collective worship is at the heart of our school life. It is a daily opportunity for our community to come together in stillness, reflection, prayer, and praise. Through our worship, we live out the principles of our school vision—Love, Inclusion, Flourishing, Empowerment—ensuring that all members of our school community feel seen, valued, and supported in their spiritual and moral growth.

Collective worship at St Luke's nurtures a school culture where all children and adults are invited to pause, reflect, and connect with meaning and purpose beyond the academic. It provides dedicated time to consider how we relate to ourselves, one another, the wider world, and to God. Through each act of worship, we create space for stillness, curiosity, and compassion—believing that spiritual growth happens when we open our hearts to wonder, explore big questions, and live out our L.I.F.E principles inspired by our Christian vision.

Aims of Collective Worship at St Luke's

-To provide a daily opportunity for pupils and staff to gather and reflect in a calm, inclusive, and thoughtful environment.

-To express and reflect on our school vision and values through stories, prayer, silence, song, and scripture.

-To give all pupils and staff—of all faiths or none—space to consider what it means to live well with others, to show compassion, and to act with integrity.

-To build a sense of community within the school and connect with the wider community, including local churches and faith partners.

-To practise spiritual reflection and encourage children to reflect on big questions about themselves, the world, and their place in it. Our worship also provides opportunities for pupils and adults to deepen their love for God and to connect with someone or something beyond ourselves, reflecting the first part of our school vision.

-To ensure our collective worship is inclusive, invitational, and inspiring—open to all, never coercive, and always respectful of individual beliefs.

Our aims recognise the centrality of the spiritual flourishing of both pupils and adults, so that worship is fundamental and influential in the life of the school. Pupils' understanding of spirituality is nurtured to enhance and enrich their experience of worship. These aims extend to all—pupils, staff, and adults visiting our school—ensuring that everyone is invited into this shared spiritual journey.

Planning and Leading Worship

Leadership of Worship

The Collective Worship Leader (a member of the Senior Leadership Team) is responsible for coordinating long- and short-term planning, supporting staff and pupils in leading worship, and monitoring its quality and impact across the school community. Collective worship is carefully planned each term in consultation with:

- School leaders
- Local clergy (St Giles', St Clement's, Wesley's Chapel)
- Pupil representatives

At St Luke's, our collective worship is shaped around five distinct assemblies each week. Together, they reflect our Christian vision rooted in the parable of the Good Samaritan and the principles of L.I.F.E – Love, Inclusion, Flourishing and Empowerment. Each assembly type serves a unique purpose in nurturing pupils' spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development, while also building aspiration, belonging, and shared values within our diverse community. Assemblies and acts of worship are complementary but distinctive. While worship is required to take place daily, assemblies may at times be combined with worship to serve the purposes of both. However, most often they remain separate. Pupils may well refer to both occasions separately, and it is important to respect the difference. To support this, worship will be explicitly denoted by a clear beginning and end—through liturgy, symbolism, or silence.

Worship is led by a range of people including:

- Members of the Senior Leadership Team
- Clergy and faith partners
- Class teachers
- Music teacher
- Pupils

Visitors Leading Worship
All visitors leading collective worship are expected to align with our school's vision and safeguarding policies. Content is shared in advance with a senior leader to ensure appropriateness for our inclusive and diverse school community. Visitors are always accompanied by staff.

1. **Biblical Collective Worship (Monday)**

This assembly begins the week by grounding us in scripture. A key Bible passage, often connected to the liturgical calendar or a Christian theme, is introduced and explored. This sets the spiritual tone for the week and encourages pupils to reflect on how God's Word connects with their everyday lives. Pupils engage with big questions and explore how the teaching calls them to live with compassion and courage.

Planning reflects the liturgical calendar, key Christian festivals, and the RE curriculum. Each week centres around a biblical reading that supports the school vision and a reflective theme or question. Worship is varied in style and delivery, incorporating storytelling, music, prayer, silence, drama, and pupil-led reflections. Children are encouraged to take active leadership roles in worship across the week.

2. **L.I.F.E. principals including pupil Sharing (Tuesday)**

This assembly focuses on our school's core principles of Love, Inclusion, Flourishing, and Empowerment. Through storytelling, discussion, and pupil contributions, we explore virtues such as kindness, respect, honesty, and resilience. Each class is given regular opportunities to lead, celebrating how our values are being lived out in learning, relationships, and the wider community.

3. **Dreamcatcher (Wednesday)**

Dreamcatcher is a pupil-led initiative that celebrates aspiration and ambition. It provides pupils with a platform to hear from inspirational role models—staff, parents, external guests, or older pupils—who share their passions and career journeys. These sessions aim to broaden horizons, raise aspirations, and empower all pupils to see their potential and dream

boldly. Pupils lead the welcome, questions, and reflections, strengthening ownership and leadership.

4. **Celebration (Thursday)**

This is a joyful time of school-wide recognition and encouragement. Pupils are praised for academic achievements, character, effort, and demonstrating the St Luke's Way. Class awards, reading milestones, and other recognitions are shared, building confidence, reinforcing positive behaviours, and uniting the school in a spirit of celebration.

5. **Singing (Friday)**

Our week ends with music and praise. In singing assembly, pupils learn and perform songs that reflect Christian themes, seasonal celebrations, and messages of unity and joy. Singing is a powerful form of worship and self-expression at St Luke's, helping pupils reflect on the week and connect emotionally and spiritually through music.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">St Luke's Daily framework for Collective Worship</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Calming music as children enter.
Shared expectations visible on board related to aims</td></tr>
<tr><td>Daily Liturgy and Structure</td><td><u>OPENING</u>

Leader: The Lord be with you.
Children: And also with you.
Leader: Good morning everybody.
Children: Good morning xxx

The candle is lit by a child

Leader: God is in this room and with us always. Let's remind ourselves what Jesus tells us:
Children: 'Love God. Love your neighbour as yourself. Be the Good Samaritan.'
Leader: Our Bible reading for today is… (see calendar)

<u>CLOSING</u>

Hymn

Closing prayer: St Luke's Prayer or other as stipulated (Pupil-led)

Leader: Learning together, we live out our principles of:
Children: LIFE! Love, Include, Flourish, Empower.
Leader: Let us bless the Lord
Children: Thanks be to God

A child comes out to extinguish the candle</td></tr>
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Monday: ***setting the scene – Biblical passage***	From the Psalms of the Old Testament of the Bible: ***'Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law'*** Closing prayer Leader: God,we thank you for the time we've spent listening to your WordAnd for all we've learned today.You give us the Bible to guide, encourage and teach us: Give us deeper understanding as we think about what we have heard today.In Jesus's name we pray. The Leader then starts the Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who art in heaven…" Children: Amen
Tuesday **Class Sharing**	From the Psalms of the Old Testament of the Bible: ***'This is the day which the LORD has made; Let's rejoice and be glad in it.'*** Closing Prayer Leader: Heavenly Father, thank you for the beautiful world you have given us to care for. We thank you for our families and our friends, for our school, our teachers and the chance to learn and grow. May we remember that you are with us today and every day. Children: Amen.
Tuesday **L.I.F.E Principles** **Pupil Sharing**	From St Matthew's Gospel in the New Testament of the Bible: ***Jesus says: 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me*** Closing prayer Leader: Dear God, thank you for making us all part of one big family. Help us to see each other as brothers and sisters,no matter where we live or what we believe.Help us to be kind and helpful to people everywhere,and to care for our beautiful planet Earth. Amen **LEADER: (with always 4 children present)** At St Luke's I will grow spiritually and learn about: ● ***myself, who I am*** *(hands overlapping on heart)* ● ***my relationships with others, and how I treat them*** *(hold hands out to the side to link with imaginary others)*

	● ***how I understand and look after this Wonderful World*** *(hands draw circle from top to bottom)* ● ***and think about everything Beyond the everyday*** *(Hands in from the chest and gestured outwardly*
Wednesday **Dream catcher**	'From the Psalms of the Old Testament of the Bible: ***'Yet I am always with you;*** ***you hold me by my right hand.*** ***You guide me with your counsel,*** ***and afterward you will take me into glory.'*** Closing Prayer: Leader: Heavenly Father, We thank you for all your blessings and the gifts you have given each of us to share with one another.Help us to use our gifts by being the best we can for God, for our neighbours and for ourselves as we use them to help one another as Good Samaritans. Children: Amen.
Thursday **Celebration**	**From Paul's Letter to the Colossians in the New Testament of the Bible:** *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."* (Colossians 3:23) Closing Prayer Leader: Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,we give thanks for this school, a place where we learn and grow, where we make friends, and where we are cared for. We thank you for our teachers, who guide us and help us to learn new things each day.We also thank you for our classmates, our friends, and the joy of being together. Children: Amen. **Close:** **LEADER: (with always 4 children present)** At St Luke's I will grow spiritually and learn about: ● ***myself, who I am*** *(hands overlapping on heart)* ● ***my relationships with others, and how I treat them*** *(hold hands out to the side to link with imaginary others)* ● ***how I understand and look after this Wonderful World*** *(hands draw circle from top to bottom)* ● ***and think about everything Beyond the everyday*** *(Jump up and draw bigger circle)"*

Friday Singing	From the Prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament of the Bible: ***'Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.'*** Closing Prayer Leader: Lord, thank you for the joy of music and the power of singing. Help us to sing with our whole hearts and to share our voices together. May our singing fill this room with joy and peace,and may it help us to remember your love. Children: Amen

Inclusivity and Participation

We recognise the diverse backgrounds of our pupils and their families, including those from different religious traditions or with no religious belief. Collective worship is always invitational. No child is required to take part in acts of worship and parents retain the right to withdraw their child in consultation with the Headteacher. Our approach is to create a space that is welcoming and reflective for all.

Children are encouraged to engage at their own level:

- Those with religious belief may use the time for personal worship and prayer.
- Those without religious belief are encouraged to reflect on moral and spiritual themes and to explore personal meaning.

Spiritual Development Through Worship

Collective worship at St Luke's supports spiritual development by:

- Encouraging wonder, gratitude, and stillness.
- Providing moments of silence for personal reflection (Quiet on the inside and quiet on the outside)
- Engaging children in questions of meaning, purpose, and belonging.
- Encouraging action in the world rooted in compassion, fairness, and respect
- Reinforcing positive relationships, community cohesion, and a sense of shared responsibility.

CPD and Training

- All those leading worship receive training, including diocesan-led opportunities
- All staff and clergy involved in leading worship are encouraged to access CPD through the LDBS or other diocesan partners to deepen their understanding of worship in a church school context.

Links with the Local Church and Wider Community

St Luke's enjoys strong relationships with:

- St Giles' Cripplegate
- St Clement's King Square
- Wesley's Chapel

Clergy regularly lead worship and contribute to the spiritual life of the school. Pupils visit these churches throughout the year and participate in services for key Christian festivals such as St Luke's Day, Christmas, and Easter. These links deepen our understanding of Christian worship and connect our school with the local faith community.

The Diocese of London (LDBS) provides training, resourcing, and evaluation tools that help us sharpen our spiritual intent. These relationships support alignment, staff development, and theological reflection across our family of schools.

Ambassadors and Football Ambassadors play an active role in promoting leadership, service, and peer support. These pupils are trained to embody the values of L.I.F.E. and serve as role models during worship and wider school life, helping foster moral reflection, inclusion, and mutual encouragement.

The St Luke's Centre, based locally, provides tailored enrichment, therapeutic intervention, and a strong values-driven curriculum. Its work with some of our most vulnerable learners is grounded in care, dignity, and empowerment—directly reflecting the spiritual ethos of the school and helping every child flourish.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At St Luke's, collective worship reflects who we are as a school: a loving, inclusive, empowering place where every child is supported to flourish. It enables our community to grow in kindness, curiosity, and courage—living out our vision with integrity and joy each day.

Collective worship is regularly reviewed by the Collective Worship Leader and members of the Governing Body through the Christian Ethos Committee. Feedback from staff, pupils, and parents helps shape future worship. Foundation Governors observe and evaluate worship termly, and findings are shared with the full governing body.

Reviewed in September 2025: Christian Ethos Committee
Review to take place in September 2028