

Collective Worship Statement of Practice



Bluecoat Wollaton

believe in yourself, in others, in God

Our Christian Vision is:

Through believing in ourselves, in others, in God, we trust that our hard work will result in the transformation of our lives and the lives of those around us.

Our Christian Values are:

Faith, Hope and Love

Our Bluecoat Family is:

*Inclusive
Committed to Staff
Highly Literate
Grounded in Faith
Knowledgeable
Rooted in Respect
Dedicated to Character Development*

Document Owner:	Head of Christian Distinctiveness
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Collective Worship at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy

Statement of Practice

All maintained schools must provide religious education and daily collective worship for all registered pupils and promote their spiritual, moral and cultural development.

At Bluecoat Wollaton Academy, we are very proud of the way in which we work with pupils to achieve their very best academically as well as **developing their character**. One of our core values is **'faith.'** As such, faith underpins everything we do here. This is lived out in daily worship across our school. It is important to us that all members of our family are given regular opportunities to explore faith whilst practising meaningful worship and prayer, showing **respect** to other members of the school community with different beliefs from theirs. This worship is central to the day to day life of our school and our **hope** is that this encourages all to think about developing who they are as spiritual beings and how they interact with the world, with others and with God. Not only is this a legal requirement (See DfE circular 1/94), but it is also something we are deeply passionate about as a Church of England Academy. We are clear when explaining to prospective parents that worship is a significant part of the day to day experience of all members of our family here at Bluecoat Wollaton and we hope that all staff and students will be enriched by their participation in this, irrespective of their religion or beliefs. In all that we do, we are **grounded in faith** and all of our children are known and **loved**; their uniqueness is celebrated in all aspects.

Weekly Worship Rota

There is at least one opportunity each day, for both staff and students, to engage in prayer and worship. These are outlined below.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Monday	Prayer in Forms	Believe Time	Believe Time	Collective Worship	Collective Worship
Tuesday	Prayer in Forms	Collective Worship	Collective Worship	Believe Time	Prayer in Forms
Wednesday	Collective Worship	Collective Worship	Prayer in Forms	Prayer in Forms	Believe Time
Thursday	Believe Time	Prayer in Forms	Collective Worship	Collective Worship	Prayer in Forms
Friday	Collective Worship	Prayer in Forms	Prayer in Forms	Prayer in Forms	Collective Worship

Collective Worship

Acts of worship take place with whole year groups. They are usually led by an individual or a small group and will always focus on a relevant theme. Worship leaders may be members of staff, tutor groups, young student leaders or external leaders from churches or other reputable organisations. When external leaders are used, these are supported by the Christian Distinctiveness team to ensure quality, theology and purposefulness of delivery are all desirable. The aim of collective worship in this setting, is to give all members of our family a chance to meet God, or at the very least, to stop and take time to reflect on their lives and their relationships. Our worship is distinctively Christian but extremely inclusive and relevant to all.

Believe Time

Our Believe Time is an act of worship during form time. These sessions are always focused around a biblical text. Staff and students are given the opportunity to read, reflect and respond to this text in their daily lives. All texts are accompanied by a particular theme or are aimed at engaging with an inspirational biblical figure in the hope of making students more biblically literate. We also encourage all, to critically engage with the Christian narrative so as to deepen their own understanding and faith. These times not only offer periods of silence and stillness, but they also encourage collaboration and discussion which is very important to us here at Bluecoat Wollaton.

Prayer in Forms

In form time, students engage in various activities including RSHE and Knowledge Organiser quizzes. It is very important to us that whatever is happening in tutor time, before students and staff go out to their lessons, there is a moment for stillness and prayer. This is key to the harmonious atmosphere we expect to maintain at Bluecoat Wollaton. It is an opportunity for students to engage, in a smaller setting, with prayer and worship. In doing so, we want students to see the importance of acknowledging God in the day to day. We have great hope for a brighter future and that moment to acknowledge His presence and that wider plan for all of us, is a key element to our day here at Bluecoat Wollaton.

Holy Communion

At Bluecoat Wollaton, we celebrate Holy Communion regularly. This is important as we follow Jesus' command to "do this in remembrance [of Him]." This is a fantastic opportunity for staff and students to respond in faith by receiving Holy Communion. This is a very personal decision, which we believe is between God and the individual deciding. No one is forced or coerced into receiving Holy Communion, but we still gather for this sacrament as a whole family. It is a time where all pay respect to our distinctively Christian ethos by engaging with the teaching and the message given by a local vicar from St Leonard's Church in Wollaton, Revd. Canon Tim Pullen. It is also a time for all to be respectful and reflective whether they take part actively in taking Communion or not.

Liturgical Calendar

Each term we hold our whole school services. These take place in our Great Room or in a nearby church. It is at these times when we join with the Christian Church around the world to celebrate Christmas and Easter. We have lots of activities and events happening in school around these times, and all students are involved in celebrating these occasions and reflecting on the lessons that can be learned from them. We join in with the Church of England liturgical calendar on many occasions over the academic year. Below are some examples of what we get involved in.

- During Advent, we light candles on our Advent Wreath during each collective worship. We encourage students to consider the theme of 'preparation' and welcoming God into their lives anew.
- Each Christmas we have our annual Carol Service. We ensure lots of students are involved in leading this and it is a chance to invite the whole Bluecoat Wollaton family to join in the festivities.
- Throughout Lent, we encourage prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This is usually in collaboration with our whole school mission week where students can sign up and get involved in different aspects of Lent.
- If we are in school during Holy Week we encourage students to engage with the Stations of the Cross and our Easter services focus on why Easter is such an important part of the Christian faith.
- We also get involved in other calendared, National events. Those that are implemented by the Church of England, such as Thy Kingdom Come and those that are important to us at Bluecoat Wollaton such as: Black History Month, Mental Health Awareness Days, Unison's Shining Star Awards, Thank a Teacher Day etc.

People Responsible

- Kirsty Lacey – Lead for Christian Distinctiveness for Archway Learning Trust
- Nicola Freeman – Lead for Christian Distinctiveness at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy
- Eleanor Walton – Christian Youth Worker
- David Riggs – Christian Youth Worker

Our Christian Distinctiveness Team (above), are responsible for the planning and coordination of all worship and Christian events held throughout the year. If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch, as this is a small snapshot of the wealth of practice here at the school: Christiandistinctiveness@bluecoat.uk.com

Here at Bluecoat Wollaton we have developed strong partnerships with local church communities and Christian organisations to support the Christian Distinctiveness in school. This has allowed for students to engage with different styles of worship, prayer and reflection and varied liturgical traditions. Further information about these partnerships may be found [on our school website](#).