

Pupil Worship or Spirituality Teams in Schools

"Pupil prayer leaders serve larger gatherings in the hall and lead worship in class. They flourish through servant leadership within the school community. St Martin's Junior School SIAMS 2026"

What is a worship team?

Like a school council, a worship team is a small group of pupils, often with a representative from each class, who meet regularly to consider the spiritual life of the school. This includes collective worship (assemblies) but also how the messages in collective worship are spread into wider school life.

In some schools the team members are in place for the year, in others they change each term.

How is a worship team selected?

Encourage pupils to apply for the role, explaining why they want to do it. Be clear that the role is open to those of any faith or no faith at all.

You could elect the worship team in the same way you elect your school council members.

You could choose members from the list of pupils who have said that they wish to be involved.

You must inform parents that their child has said they want to be part of the worship team.

The parental right of withdrawal from collective worship would apply to being part of a worship team.

Which adults are involved?

The adults involved can be anyone from the school community with a passion to develop the worship life of the school. This could be SLT, a teacher, support staff, member of the clergy or someone from the local church who is a regular visitor to the school. Even if they are not part of the regular meetings, a member of staff needs to be linked to the team to enable the pupils suggestions to be easily implemented. You need the support of the school leadership if the worship team are to successfully make a difference

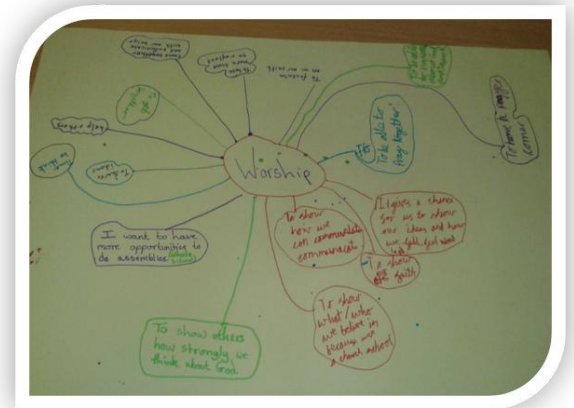
"The pupils' collective worship committee is active in evaluation and development of themes and activities." Rowledge Primary School SIAMS 2025

What do a worship team do?

Most teams meet as a group roughly once a month.

The team might

- Evaluate and feedback on worship, maybe doing a survey of other pupils.
- Walk around the school to evaluate the impact of the prayer and reflection areas or displays linked to collective worship.
- Create prayer and reflection areas or displays linked to collective worship.
- Lead the introductory and closing responses in collective worship.
- Lead the prayer or reflection in collective worship.
- Plan and lead a whole collective worship.
- Work with the worship team from another school



"Faith ambassadors extend this learning (about the school vision and values) by helping to lead worship, creating prayer spaces and selecting Bible stories for reflection. Their leadership enhances participation and supports the school community to engage and grow spiritually."

Ashley Primary School SIAMS 2026

Resources to support you with setting up a pupil worship team

[Spiritual Agents: Pupils as Leaders of Collective Worship Grove Book](#) Grove books are included as part of our SLA

[William and Lucy Lead Collective Worship](#) A set of 6 activities to do with your worship team