



## **Policy - Collective Worship Policy**

**Lead: Gregor Smith**

### **Mission Statement**

By living the faith now, we reflect on centuries of Christian village life in Heysham. Jesus said 'Let your light shine before others.' Like Saint Peter, we will be the rock on which our children can build their lives with their light shining brightly as part of St. Peter's family.

### **Overview**

All faith schools are required to provide a daily, collective act of worship that is on most occasions wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. It need not be held at the same time each day. Where parents request it, their children will be withdrawn from the collective worship and alternative arrangements will be made for them.

### **Christian Values**

Responsibility, Joy, Trust, Forgiveness, Love and Courage

### **Objectives**

Each day all pupils will have the opportunity to participate in an act of high quality worship. Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of St. Peter's CE school and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- Share common aims, values and reinforce positive attitudes (Christian Values)
- Celebrate achievements and special times.
- Explore together the world in which we live.
- Make strong links between spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, British values, science and religious education.
- Contribute to pupils' experience of awe and wonder.
- Create an ethos for worship which will enable pupils to enjoy music, singing and celebration.
- Help pupils understand and experience the meaning of great religious festivals and holy days both Christian and other major religions.

### **Strategies**

Three times a week the school will meet collectively to worship.

- On the other two days, worship will be held in classrooms at appropriate times during the day and will be lead by staff, the worship committee or other pupils.
- Pupils will have the opportunity to say a lunchtime prayer and an end of day prayer appropriate to their age.
- Pupils will learn some well-known prayers, songs and hymns and these will be used in worship.
- Worship will be used for celebration and thanksgiving.
- Pupils will be given opportunities both to participate in worship and to lead worship.
- The Rector will participate in class worships and collective worship on a regular basis.
- On some occasions parents will be invited to watch/participate in collective and class worship within school or Church.
- Occasionally, outside speakers will be brought in to address the pupils and, where appropriate, lead acts of worship.
- On special occasions, worship will be linked to religious and other festivals, e.g. Christmas, Easter and Harvest which will occasionally take place at St. Peter's Church.
- Records of religious worship will be kept to show that the requirements of the law have been met.

*As part of God's family, we aim high, enjoy and achieve*



Currently the worship co-ordinator plans all worship using the guidance of '*Roots And Fruits: Creative collective Worship For Primary Schools On Christian Values Themes*' by Shahne Vickery and '*God's Big Story*'- The Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education's collective worship planning resource.

Whilst seeking to fulfil the aims set out above, care is taken to explore a variety of approaches to worship in order to constantly search for quality experiences. The following will, at times, play a prominent part in collective worship: story, drama, visual aids, dance, music, stillness, reflection.

### **Evaluation of Worship**

The worship coordinator will evaluate worship with the support of a variety of stakeholders (including the worship committee, SLT, governors, clergy and members of staff) for a variety of purposes.

The worship coordinator will provide regular opportunities for child led evaluation of worship.

### **Equal Opportunities**

We believe that all children should have equal access to worship irrespective of race, religion, gender, sexuality, social class or ability. To enable this to happen, this policy ensures that a balanced and well-presented worship is provided across EYFS, KS 1 and KS2.

### **Outcomes**

Pupils will be offered excellent opportunities to experience, enjoy and participate in a variety of different kinds of acts of worship. They will have the opportunity to experience an ethos conducive to spiritual development through prayer and reflection. They will learn and develop positive attitudes to worship and worshipping communities. Through collective worship learners will grow in spirituality and experience awe and wonder.

Signed on behalf of the Governors	Reverend Andrew Osborn
Date	V1 July 2019 V2 September 2019
Review Date	September 2022