

Policy - Collective Worship Policy

Lead: Gregor Smith

Mission Statement

It is our aim to enable every member of our school family to flourish and live life in all its fullness by:

Teaching a broad and balanced curriculum, holistically nurturing and developing our children, helping those in need through loving service, confronting injustice in our world and caring for creation.

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 Where parents request it, their children will be withdrawn from the collective worship and alternative arrangements will be made for them.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:

- To serve our loving God.
- Share common aims, values and reinforce positive attitudes (Christian Values)
- Celebrate achievements and special times.
- Explore together the world in which we live and care for this wonderful creation
- 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, or in the hall as a Key Stage, 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 at 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.

Currently the worship co-ordinator plans all worship. Whole school workshops follow a termly value and make use of *Roots And Fruits: Creative collective Worship For Primary Schools On Christian Values Themes* by Shahne Vickery and The Church of England's *Values For Life*. Worshipping together as a Key Stage is supported by values based resources from *Big Start Assemblies*. For Class Workshops *Picture News* is used, as recommended by The Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education, in order to provide a Christian perspective on, and response to, events that are going on in the wider world.

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 and Diversity

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	Caroline Whittingham
Date	V1 July 2019 V2 September 2019 V3 September 2021 V4 January 2021 V5 January 2022
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