

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Collective Worship.

Introduction.

- This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for Collective Worship at All Saints Catholic Primary School.
- It has been developed through a process of consultation with teaching staff.
- It will be reviewed each year by the whole school in consultation with the Governing Body.

Collective worship in All Saints Catholic Primary School is an integral part of school life. While respecting diversity of belief and commitment, it is Catholic in character and has Christ at its heart. It celebrates God's presence in our lives and is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It reflects the tradition of the Church and its belief in the Holy Trinity.

The Purpose of Collective Worship.

- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit.
- To promote spiritual, cultural and moral development.
- To provide opportunity for children to share and express their thoughts and feelings.

Aims of Collective Worship.

- To provide opportunities for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To reflect on values and concerns of the school community and the wider community it serves.
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response.
- To enable children to gain insight into ways in which people express themselves within their faith commitments and to be sensitive to those different ways of responding.
- To encourage participation and response, through active involvement in the planning and presentation of worship.
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

Objectives of Collective Worship.

To develop a sense of:

- Awe, wonder and mystery.
- Interdependence with the natural world.
- Pattern, sequence and order.
- Self-worth and value of others.

To develop awareness:

- That life involves choices of belief, attitude, behaviour and relationships.
- That there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life.

At All Saints, all collective worship is based on the principles that they should be:

- Spiritual.
- Reflective.
- Inclusive.

and contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children. They are seen as special times, concerned with the glory and honour of God. Children feel secure and relaxed in a friendly, prayerful atmosphere which fosters positive feelings and a sense of community. Children are encouraged to participate in all areas of the preparation and delivery of Collective Worship.

Principles of Collective Worship.

All acts of worship in this school should be inclusive:

- Pupil centred, related to pupils own experiences and relevant to their lives.
- Acknowledge diversity.
- Involve pupils as active participants.
- Match the needs of pupils.
- Foster a sense of community.

They should be spiritual:

- Time for stillness and reflection.
- A special time – conducive to worship.
- Children should feel calm, relaxed and secure.
- Include a variety of words, music and images.
- Provide opportunities for children to take part in a variety of spiritual opportunities.
- Provide opportunity for children to take an active part in worship.

Collective Worship could be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain:

- Related to learning experiences across the curriculum.
- Related to pupils own life experiences.
- Celebrate educational achievements and talents.

How Collective Worship is organized.

Collective Worship is carried out daily as part of an assembly or within individual classrooms. On occasions, it takes place in St James' Church and outside in the school grounds during the warmer months.

Monday: KS1 and KS 2 class collective worship.

Tuesday: KS1 and KS2 collective worship.
Wednesday: KS1 and KS2 class collective worship.
Thursday: Whole school hymn practice.
Class collective worship.
Friday: Whole collective worship and assembly.

At the end of each theme, the whole school celebrates with a Rejoice assembly, to which parents and children of all faiths are invited. Each class contributes what they have learnt about the theme, through their class topic, to the assembly, starting from the Reception class working through to Y6. This gives the opportunity to see the good work and learning that has taken place in each class and the progression of the learning throughout the school.

Throughout the year special celebrations are held which encourage the children to share and quietly reflect on important events in the Church's year.

Y1 present a Palm Sunday celebration.
Y2 present the Nativity.
Y3 present a celebration of the Last Supper.
Y4 present an Advent Service and Sacramental Celebrations.
Y6 present The Stations of the Cross.

Liturgies in School

Mass is celebrated throughout the school year, usually at the beginning and end of each term and on Feast days and Holydays. Each class contributes to the Mass by planning one significant section; the music, readings, bidding prayers or the offertory. Class masses and prayer services, to which parents and friends are invited, take place throughout the school year in the children's classrooms or in St James' Church.

Conclusion.

The experience of stillness, peace, awe, wonder, mystery, celebration, reverence and belonging are of central importance in promoting spiritual development. Such values will be explored, celebrated and reflected upon in Collective Worship in a manner that complements the way they are taught in the classroom and communicated through the ethos of the school.

