

St Anne's Catholic Primary School
Washington Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 5AA

Living, Loving and Learning as Children of God

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP
POLICY**

Date: June 2015

Member of Staff Responsible: Mrs M Buller

Date of next review: December 2017

Signed:

Chair of Governors

St Anne's Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Mission Statement

- At St Anne's we live, love and learn as children of God.
- As children of God we cherish and respect everyone, and help those in need.
- We love Jesus and share his love with our families and friends and those around us.
- We support and encourage everybody to do their very best in work and play.
- We say sorry and forgive each other as Jesus showed us.
- We celebrate whatever is good.
- We do our best to make our school a happy place where we can live, love, learn and laugh as children of God.

Legal Requirements:

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. The act of worship is not designated curriculum time and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

We will continue to foster and deepen the children's personal relationship with God our Father in daily prayer. We do this by helping them become aware of God's presence in their lives and of His love for them by leading them to respond to Him in a manner suited to their age. This may be in one of the following ways:

- Prayer of silence
- Spontaneous prayer
- Praying through gesture or action
- Formal prayer

Prayer will not be confined to an act of worship. Children are encouraged to pray throughout the day.

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

Aims

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience.
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development.

- To reinforce prayers that are part of the Catholic tradition. (See Appendix One – Overview of School and Parish Prayer and Induction Prayer.)
- To reinforce positive attitudes / support the Gospel Values upon which our behaviour policy is based.
- To provide opportunities for all members of the school community to worship together - to listen, to understand, to reflect and to pray.
- To take time out to wonder at and explore our world.

Principles:

All acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Be a quality activity fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic Character
- Give children positive liturgical experiences appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this, celebrations will:

- Be kept small wherever possible or appropriate to personalise the experience
- Be short and appropriately paced
- Be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

Whole School Structure

Each act of communal prayer and Liturgy should follow a four-fold structure;gathering together, listening, responding and going forth (see Appendix Two – Liturgy Planner) Each gathering should last no longer than twenty minutes maximum and staff should be present.

Monday's Praise Assembly led by a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) celebrates the children's achievements from the previous week, within this there should be a 'listening' moment where the children hear the word of God followed by an opportunity to 'respond'. The assembly should end with a prayerful reflection and where opportunity allows, a hymn.

Tuesday's Hymn Practice begins and ends with the Candle Prayer. The children worship and praise God through their singing.

Friday's Gospel Assembly led by a member of SLT, will follow the four-fold structure of the Liturgy planner.

EYFS and KS1	KS2
<p>Once a week, all classes worship together led by an EYFS or KS1 teacher. The RE coordinator will identify possible themes based on the Liturgical Calendar.</p> <p>Liturgies are held three times a year in school.</p>	<p>Once a week all KS2 classes worship together in the hall led by a KS2 teacher. The RE coordinator will identify possible themes based on the Liturgical Calendar.</p> <p>Once a month, each KS2 class will attend a morning mass.</p> <p>The Year 6 House Captains will plan and lead three House Assemblies each year.</p> <p>Three times a year, KS2 classes will pair up to plan and participate in a themed mass.</p>
<p>Children should be actively involved in some part of each gathering, on a class by class rota basis. Key Stage assemblies will allow the opportunity for spontaneous prayer.</p>	

Monitoring and Evaluation:

Throughout the year, as part of the school's monitoring calendar, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of pupils and whether it truly reflects the aims and mission of the school.

Eucharist:

Eucharist celebrations form a very important part in our Collective Worship strategy. Opportunities for children to participate are maximised and parents and other members of the school and Parish communities are encouraged to attend.

The celebrations will take the following forms:

- Whole school masses
- Class Masses and Liturgies
- Key Stage Liturgies
- The whole school will also take part in the Mass on Holy Days of obligation if they occur in school time at St Anne's Church

Year Three will attend and participate in the First Holy Communion Thanksgiving Mass held each year at Mapledurham House.

Year Six will attend and participate in the Catholic Cluster Leaver's Mass and at school.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in Advent and Lent with Penitential Services planned by each class, followed by individual confessions with the Parish Priest.

Staff will be encouraged to support the children's faith journey by attending the First Holy Communion and Confirmation Masses.

Staff will be encouraged to be an active part of the Catholic cluster by attending the Catholic Cluster Masses in replace of the staff meeting that week.

See Appendix Three- Mass Planning sheets.

Liturgies

Children and staff pray together at the beginning and end of each morning and afternoon session.

When there is no assembly or Mass each class teacher should, together with a group of children, plan and participate in a worship session. This time must be additional to the RE lessons. (See Appendix Two- Liturgy Planner and Prayer Cards)

All classes will have a well-presented, liturgically themed, prayer area, which will be the focal point of the class prayers.(See Appendix Four- Introduction to the Liturgical Year.)

Definitions

Liturgy: The four-fold structure of gathering together, listening to God's word, responding and going forth.

Worship: To devote time to offering our thoughts and prayers to God.

MB/ DM/KP December 2014. To be reviewedDecember 2016