

# Bury C of E Primary School

## Worship Policy



Written: Spring 2018

Date for review: Spring 2021

Head Teacher's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Chair of governor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

*“For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

## **Introduction**

At Bury Church of England Primary School we believe it is important to meet together regularly as a community to reinforce community values and to worship together. The character of worship in the school is Christian with references to other faiths when appropriate. Collective worship is co-ordinated by the Head teacher and a variety of themes and activities are used to ensure high quality experience for all the children regardless of family background.

Our assemblies are based upon our core school Christian Values of: **courage, humility, compassion, perseverance** and **wisdom**.

These are supported by our ‘Learning Values’, known as our STARs: success, teamwork, aspiration, resilience, responsibility and respect.

## **Aims**

- ❖ to provide an opportunity for pupils to meet together as a whole school;
- ❖ to provide an opportunity to reflect on life and prayer;
- ❖ to introduce children to religious worship in a meaningful and honest way;
- ❖ to provide opportunities for pupils to encounter the rich spiritual traditions of the Anglican Church
- ❖ to guide pupils towards an understanding of their own inner spiritual lives
- ❖ to enable those pupils who want to worship God to do so;
- ❖ to encourage and develop a sense of community in the school, reinforcing the aims and ethos and celebrating the ideals and values of the school
- ❖ to aid pupils and staff in their own spiritual development by
  - creating time for peace, stillness and reflection during worship services, and
  - providing an opportunity for pupils to share their own thoughts and spiritual insights.

## **Organisation and Management**

The school holds regular assemblies where pupils meet together with their teacher, Head teacher or the vicar of Bury’s St John the Evangelist Church. These assemblies have a variety of aims, content and experience.

Within these assemblies the act of collective worship takes place.

Collective worship is co-ordinated by the Headteacher who also leads two of the assemblies each week.

A half termly programme of assembly themes is produced and distributed to all staff. This is part of the annual programme organised by the co-ordinator that includes special occasions held at various times.

*“For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

All the worship in the school is of a broadly Christian character, while the content varies and will be more explicitly Christian on some days, less so on others.

Collective worship will vary in content but will normally contain a hymn, a prayer and a reading from the Bible or other literature carrying appropriate themes.

### **Weekly Programme**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Thomas Moore Christian/British Value focus	Bible Story with Mrs Gammon or Child Led	Fr Peter	Laura Braun – Singing Assembly	Celebration Assembly- Thomas Moore

### **Time Allocation**

Assemblies are planned for 15 to 20 minutes each day, of which about 10 to 15 minutes is given to collective worship and 5 minutes to other matters of school interest.

### **Resources**

A range of books and resources are available to support collective worship in the school, and are kept in the staff library, assembly hall and head teacher’s office.

### **Withdrawal**

If parents wish to withdraw their child from Religious Education lessons and assemblies they may contact the Head teacher. Suitable alternative arrangements will be made.

### **Community**

The school works closely with the local churches.

The vicar of St John’s supports the school, and on special occasions (at least once a term) the school worships in the local church. The vicar visits the school regularly to take worship and to join in with our community events, such as open days and special events. The school and church are working together to offer further opportunities to lead children (and families) to the threshold of worship through offering Messy Church as a monthly weekend opportunity.