

# Collective Worship Policy



Through respect we will work together in Christ to develop the whole person

Written: September 2018  
Date of Review: September 2020  
Leader: Mark Edwards

**St Matthew's R.C. Primary School:  
Collective Worship Policy  
Written September 2018 Reviewed September 2020**

*"Celebrations of various kinds which help the children to understand some of the elements of liturgy (such as greeting, silence, community praise especially in song) have a great part to play in their liturgical formation and in preparing them for the liturgical life of the Church."*

**This policy is intended to ensure:**

It takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in Church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of Church
- Those from Christian traditions
- Those from other faith backgrounds

**Aims:**

Collective Worship is an educational activity or experience:

- To which all can contribute
- From which all can gain
- Worship in our school is central to our mission statement and the Catholic education we provide.
- It forms a central part of the school's overall provision for prayer and worship.

**Planning and Delivery:**

A daily collective worship is held in each classroom three times per week. This lasts approximately one minute for each year of the children's lives.

A whole school collective worship takes place every Monday morning in the school hall as part of assemble. Each Key Stage also has a group collective worship weekly.

We take opportunities to vary the location for collective worship, such as in the open and in Church.

We ensure collective worship provides learners with a variety of experiences. It may be led by staff, visitors or the children themselves.

**Organisation and Teaching Methods:**

A balance of quiet reflection, silence, scripture, prayers, music, songs, dance, drama or video may be used to encourage the children to 'gather, listen, respond and go forth.' Each class has a visual prayer space, which will reflect either the topic or the Liturgical season. These celebrations are a foundation for a fuller participation in the Eucharist. By their active participation in celebrations throughout the topics children will be introduced to symbol, gestures and actions of liturgy and worship.

In each 'Come and See' topic there are opportunities for children to participate in community worship in an active, conscious and genuine way. Parents are regularly invited to join in whole school and year group collective worship celebrations.

We link themes for daily acts of worship to the 'British Values' themes that run throughout the year, this also ties in to SMSC and PSHE. Each theme lasts 3-4 weeks.

**Collective Worship Themes:**

<b>Responsibility</b> <b>Serving Others</b>	<b>Autumn 1</b>
<b>Lead by example-golden rule</b> <b>Peace-</b> <b>Advent</b> <b>White-Christmas</b>	<b>Autumn 2</b>
<b>Love</b> <b>Comfort</b> <b>Time after Epiphany</b>	<b>Spring 1</b>
<b>Forgiveness</b> <b>Trust</b> <b>Lent</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>White-Easter</b>	<b>Spring 2</b>
<b>Wisdom</b> <b>Hope</b> <b>Pentecost</b> <b>Time after Pentecost</b>	<b>Summer 1</b>
<b>Courage</b> <b>Thankfulness</b>	<b>Summer 2</b>

Wherever appropriate, children may be encouraged to help with the preparation, planning and delivery of the celebration. Collective worship is planned using resources that are appropriate to the interests, age, background and ability of learners. An appropriate atmosphere is set where children are introduced to a variety of forms and styles of prayer. Collective Worship is planned and recorded weekly by the class teachers. Throughout each topic children are also given the opportunity to plan and deliver collective worship in a range of situations appropriate to their age, capacity and stage of development. It is evaluated regularly by staff and learners.

**IMPACT OF CORONA VIRUS 2020**

Due to school closure in March 2020, the curriculum moved to a dual curriculum until the end of the 2019/20 academic year. Opportunities for family worship as well as links to online prayer resources were posted on the school website. For those children in school opportunities for worship were made available on a daily basis and provided an integral part of the wellbeing curriculum that was to be delivered.