

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

2021-22



Collective Worship Policy

Name of Subject Leader: H.Shaw

Last review date: Sept 2022

Policy approved by: V. Snejberkova-Taylor

Next review date: Sept 2023

Aims & Objectives

We endorse the belief that Collective Worship 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 other Christian traditions – or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds.
- It will be an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.
- Worship in our school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Subject Leader

- To ensure coverage continuity and progression in planning for collective worship
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of collective worship
- To support and guide the practice of teachers and support staff
- To produce Action Plans for the SDP
- To manage the collective worship budget effectively demonstrating impact
- To liaise and consult with outside agencies where appropriate
- To attend relevant INSET training
- To prepare and lead, or contribute to, INSET
- To review termly the contribution made by collective worship to a meaningful curriculum
- To organise whole school/ KS events, as appropriate

Intent

Intent of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To promote knowledge and understanding of Catholic faith and life
- To promote knowledge and understanding of the response of faith to the ultimate questions about human life, its origin and purpose
- To promote the skills required to engage in examination of and reflection upon religious belief and practice
- 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 which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully

- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to.'

We intend to do this by:

- Giving glory and honour to God
- Providing 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 help to personalise the experience;
 - be short and appropriately paced (children's attention span lasts in any one activity for an average of one minute per year of life *i.e., 5-6 mins. For Key Stage 1 and 7-10 mins. For Key Stage 2*);
 - be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

Implementation

Our implementation is developed through secure understanding of collective worship. Subject expertise allows the intentions of our collective worship to be executed successfully.

Organisation & Planning

Structure

At our school we celebrate Collective Worship as a whole school (Reception to Year 6) each Monday Afternoon, which is usually led by the head of school or phase leaders. On the other days, each class celebrates their own Collective Worship, led by the class teacher or class pupils (see pupil led expectations document). The length of this varies from class to class. We also have Collective Worship for annual Liturgical celebrations, this includes Ash Wednesday, St Francis of Assisi Feast Day etc. These are celebrated with Mass in Church.

Planning

Collective Worship is planned:

- following a structure with reference to the Church's liturgical year, significant dates and the curriculum. Scripture will be the focus in all acts of worship
- with flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- to develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- on a liturgy planner to keep note of themes, leaders, pupil groupings and resources
- pupil recording sheets, when pupils lead collective worship (see pupil led expectations document)
- through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs etc.

Inclusion

Teachers plan collective worship so that pupils with SEN and/or disabilities can access the worship fully and ensure that there are no barriers to pupils. Teachers take account of the needs of pupils whose first language is not English. Worship is planned in a way that encourages full and active participation by all children, matched to their knowledge, understanding and previous experience.

Impact

Monitoring and Evaluation

Our school provision of worship is observed and monitored each year and is evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship.