

Prayer & Collective Worship Policy



St. Anne's Catholic Primary School.
Chertsey

Person Responsible:	RE Co-ordinator/H/T/DHT
Date policy reviewed:	September 2019
Reviewed by:	Teaching staff, Head Teacher, Governors
Date of next Review:	September 2021



St. Anne's Collective Worship Policy

St. Anne's Mission Statement.

With Christ at the centre of our lives, we live out our call to serve the young;

**"It is not enough to love children,
They must know that they are loved."**



The Nature of Collective Worship

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school names and celebrates God's presence in our lives. It is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

'The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.'¹

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups.) We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

In this school, responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the headteacher.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured, within Come and See RE curriculum.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of St. Anne's Catholic School

Worship in **St. Anne's Catholic** School is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

¹ Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

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.

The Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship in St. Anne's Catholic School aims to provide opportunities for all pupils and staff:

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

Principles

All acts of worship in St. Anne's Catholic school will:

- Give glory and honour to God;
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Enable pupils to develop skills so that they can prepare, organise and lead worship;
- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.² Celebrations will be appropriate to the age and groupings of the children.

Planning, content and celebration

Collective Worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, Come and See, feast days, the curriculum and significant dates e.g. CAFOD Family Fast Day, Holocaust Memorial Day.

The parish and parents are invited to participate in celebrations such as an end of school year mass, the Rosary in October and May and school assemblies.

A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion.

We have formal prayers taught to all the children including the Our Father and Hail Mary. The children are encouraged to participate in spontaneous prayer within their own class on a daily basis as well as in collective worship.

As part of Collective worships, children are taught the responses in mass and learn for examples different 'Alleluias' all of which children choose which they would like to sing.

The timetable of Collective Worship is as below.

² Directory for Masses with Children, paragraph 9.

Monday	In class (KS2 pupils lead)
Tuesday	EYFS, KS1 and KS2
Wednesday	Years 5 and 6 (other classes in class)
Thursday	Year 3 and 4 (other classes in class)
Friday	EYFS, KS1 and KS2

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded in teachers planning sheets and pupils in upper KS2 produce their own ppt.

Monitoring and Evaluation

See monitoring file.

Collective Worship is monitored using Collective Worship monitoring form, (Appendix 1).

Following monitoring, training needs will be identified and outcomes used to inform SEF 48.

Resources

Each teacher receives a crib in September and training throughout the year for collective worship.

Resources are kept in a central place at St. Anne's. (Opposite the Head teacher's office).

Resources that can be found: Crucifixes, storybooks, cloths, rosaries etc;

RE council go around classes and update lead on what resources are needed.

All ks2 classes have new Good News Bibles from September 2019.

The learning environment

'Symbols and icons of the Catholic faith when displayed in school and throughout its premises will help the school community and visitors to experience the uniqueness and sacredness of this learning environment'³

Focal points in each classroom and throughout the school will reflect the liturgical season and will reference Come and See topics. In this way they will be an outward sign of the school's ethos.

Retreats

The staff will have the opportunity for a day of Reflection yearly. For the coming 2019-2020 academic year a day is planned at for staff INSET on their own well-being in February 2020.

Year 5 and 6 will take part in a retreat within the parish throughout the year led by themselves and the assistant priest in the parish.

Other opportunities

See calendar for the Liturgical year at the end of the policy. Appendix 3

Eucharist

See calendar for the Liturgical year at the end of the policy. Appendix 3

The Co-ordinator for Collective Worship

Hanorah Murphy – Religion Co-ordinator and Deputy Headteacher. Also leading: Leanne Harris- Head teacher. Succession planning- Rebecca Burgess will shadow Hanorah Murphy

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Collective Worship coordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors every two years. The Foundation Governors in particular will play a most important role.

³ Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

Appendix 1

Year Group:

Monitoring of Collective Worship

Date:

Focus	Comments
Planning (discussed with teacher before or after celebration) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the children been involved in the planning? • Has the Act of Worship been planned around a theme/feast? 	
Structure (If Liturgy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can the four parts (Gather, Word, Response, Mission) be distinctly identified? • How did children gather? • Was the Word appropriate and treated reverently? • How did children respond to the Word? • Was there a clear Mission, an evident message at the end of the liturgy? 	
Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child or adult led? • Depending on the age of the children were they as involved as possible in leading? 	
Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were children fully engaged and participating enthusiastically? • Was it a prayerful experience? 	
Creativity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How creative was the Act of Worship? • Did it include different prayer styles/dance/music etc to enhance the experience? 	
Prayer Space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were children able to create focal point, atmosphere for prayer, appropriate for their age? 	
Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were liturgical resources used appropriately eg correct liturgical colours, artefacts? 	
ICT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was ICT used to support and enhance the Act of Worship or was it a distraction? 	
Agreed areas for development	

A copy of this monitoring sheet has been given to the class teacher

Coordinator ...

Class Teacher ...

Appendix 2

The Role of the Coordinator for Collective Worship

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship included in the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and faith backgrounds of pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory for Masses with Children'
- Organising themes for Worship
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship
- Developing staff confidence and expertise e.g. through modelling different prayer styles

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing Acts of Collective Worship and providing feedback
- Informing the headteacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship

Communication

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Collective Worship
- Reporting to and consulting with the governors and headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acting as consultant to colleagues
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaison with the school chaplain
- Liaison with the Diocesan Department for Education

Professional development / Ongoing formation

- Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses, reporting back and leading staff training
- Keeping up to date by personal reading

Resources

- Evaluating existing resources
- Developing the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- Budgeting efficiently



Appendix 3

*With Christ at the centre of our lives, we live out our call to serve the young;
"It is not enough to love children. They must know that they are loved."*

St. John Bosco

Liturgical Year 2019-2020

Continuous	Daily collective worship either in class or in the hall. Assemblies- Celebration assemblies throughout the year. Year 2-6 to attend weekday mass in the parish once a term.		
Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	
Whole school mass- Beginning of the school year -September. (years 2-6)	Whole school mass- St. John Bosco. January. (Years 2-6)	Rosary every morning during May. (Parents invited).	
Coffee morning for Macmillan- Fundraising event.	Salesian school (Secondary School) visit to see enactment of St. John Bosco's life. (Year 6)	Whole staff INSET day-	
Year R Welcome Assembly			
Rosary every morning during October. (Parents invited) RE council to train pupils in lunchtimes	Sign to Sing- Fundraising for hearing impaired.	Holy Communion Year 3. Each child in year 3 receives a Rosary from the school. Parents are invited in for a celebration assembly.	
Harvest Festival- KS1 and KS2	Reconciliation services for Lent. KS2		
Years 3 and 4. Christmas production at Church.	CAFOD assemblies. February. KS1 and KS2.		
Years 5 and 6 carol service at Church.	Fairtrade week with CAFOD representative. (Years 5 and 6)		
Operation Christmas child	Celebrating RE day at Salesian school. 2 children from each KS2 class to attend.		
Advent Services KS1 and KS2	Years 2-6 to visit Church for the stations of the cross.		
	Easter Services- KS1 And KS2		
	Celebrating Easter day within school.		