

St Marie's Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

2020



Mission Statement

Walking Hand in hand with Jesus

Our mission as a catholic school is

To enable children, staff and visitors to St. Marie's School community, to have the opportunity to take part in Collective Worship.

Provide opportunities for pupils to worship God and to explore their own beliefs.

Become aware of reflection and the need for a calm reflective atmosphere.

Develop their own skills of prayer, both in thought and aloud.

Be encouraged to create personal prayers and join in with traditional prayers.

Appreciate that we are coming together to pray, to worship and respect each others needs.

Experience prayer being related to life and living, and to consider moral issues.

Experience the appropriate way to pray when together as a community.

Experience the opportunity to make collective worship personal and relative by planning and choosing focus items.

Opportunities for Collective Worship at St Marie's follow various formats and are held at different times of the day

Collective Worship

Where

Collective worship takes place in classrooms, the hall, outside quad, school grounds, weather permitting and at St Mary's Church.

When

Collective Worship takes place each day for approximately five/ten minutes and on other special occasions. Special acts of Collective Worship take place on feast days and celebratory occasions. All classes contribute to these celebrations.

Organisation

Each key stage meets once a month to take part in Collective Worship together. We join together as a whole school twice a week. Each class takes part in collective Worship on the remaining days, joining together at appropriate times with year partnership. Collective worship takes place throughout the year to mark special days and feasts. Parents, carers, parishioners and the community are invited to take part in whole school collective worship which includes mass led by Father David.

Focal Points

Each teacher develops, with the children, an area of focus to look at when praying which may be in their classrooms, in the hall or outside depending on the location of the collective worship.

Resources

Music focal points, stories and children's prayer books. Come and See website and links, God's Story, Church Story and Catholic Good News Bible. Rejoice tapes, Candles, fabrics of varying designs, pictures and artefacts. We have an account with St. Paul's Multimedia and access the internet to obtain additional resources to match changing needs.

Planning

Collective Worship is planned in relation to the Come and See scheme, current news, local, national and world issues, suggestions from all involved.

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The content of the Collective Worship is recorded on the planning sheets.

Assembly

We have assemblies each week during which, the opportunity is taken to have Collective Worship. These are led by the Headteacher and the Senior Management Team/ RE Coordinator, modelling the kind of practice, which could be used in a class Collective Worship.

Monitoring

Collective worship observation takes place on a rolling program throughout the year and planning is monitored by the Head teacher and the R.E. co-ordinator.

Governors

Collective worship is monitored by the Governors through reports from the RE Coordinator. Governors are invited to attend whole school collective worships or class worships.

Review

The collective policy is reviewed every 2 years by the R.E co-ordinator and the Full Governing Body.

GUIDE LINES FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Where

Collective Worship can take place anywhere as long as the atmosphere created is appropriate. Sitting on the grass in a circle, on a sunny day may be the perfect place at the right time. Sitting together on the carpet in the classroom may be the right place another time. The important thing is to create a change from what the children do for the rest of the day.

How

Always create an atmosphere, which is calm. This calm can be achieved by the use of music, story, pictures, chants and using a focal point. The simplest can sometimes be the best – a leaf, a photograph, a candle, or a song.

Time

Keep the time short and meaningful (approximately 1min per year of the children. Eg 5yrs = 5 mins).

Planning

Always plan your Collective Worship before hand, choosing appropriate prayers, theme, and place. The Christian Education Department have provided a planning guide, which is very useful- Stepping Stones

Children should take an active part in planning of each collective worship. Teachers should lead the worship.

Content

Vary the content, be selective.

1: Traditional prayer.

2: Modern prayer.

3: Children's own prayer.

4: Scripture.

5: Poetry.

6: Music – traditional – modern. The words make beautiful prayers.

7: Current events.

8: Singing and Dance.

Come and See suggests prayers in every topic, and gives guides lines for appropriate age levels.

We hope Collective Worship is meaningful to all who take part, is celebratory and sensitive. It is an opportunity for us to Collectively Worship and Rejoice.

Parent and carers are the first educators of the child. They have the right, if they feel it is appropriate, to ask for their child to be withdrawn from collective worship.

Reviewed January 2020

Chair of Governors:

Headteacher: