

## **Collective Worship Policy**

'We follow in the footsteps of Jesus as we live love and learn together.'

Reviewed September 2019

### **Rationale**

Collective worship in St. Luke's forms an essential part of the school's overall provision for prayer and worship. It reflects the liturgical tradition of the Church and has Christ at its heart. It is an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

### **Aims**

Collective Worship aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To come together to worship God.
- To contemplate something of the mystery of God.
- To develop a sense of awe, wonder and inspiration in the person of Christ
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reflect on personal belief.
- To build a firm Foundation of liturgy
- To enrich the religious experience of children and staff.
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues.
- To respond to and celebrate life.
- To wonder and take time out.
- To encourage a common ethos and shared values.
- To enable and encourage a sense of belonging and community spirit.

### **Participants**

All members of our school community are invited to participate in the Collective Worship which takes place in our school:-

- The Governors take responsibility for drawing up and agreeing a school policy statement for Collective Worship.
- The Headteacher liaises with Governors, R.E. Co-ordinator and Teachers in drawing up the policy and ensuring the Collective Worship is provided for each child every day.
- The teachers plan and enable Collective Worship to take place each day.
- Parents are invited to participate in some of our Collective Worship sessions.
- The opportunity is provided for all pupils to participate in daily Collective Worship. Although it is recognised that parents have the right to withdraw their child, we encourage parents not to do this.

### **When and Where Collective Worship Takes Place**

Collective Worship takes place daily.

Collective Worship takes place in a range of settings;

**In the classroom:** At the start or end of a school session.  
(Morning or going home prayers.)

Our Mission: 'We follow in the footsteps of Jesus, as we live, love and learn together'

Class collective worship every day. (unless there is whole school or key stage collective worship).  
As part of an R.E. session.  
As a class mass.

### **In the assembly hall**

At a dedicated time of Collective Worship.  
As part of school assembly  
As a school liturgy  
(i.e. Ash Wednesday, Stations of the Cross.)  
During rejoice assemble for parents and the school community

**In St Luke's Church** A whole school celebration.

### **Planning, Evaluating and Recording**

Collective Worship is planned by the teachers with reference to school aims and policies. They take notice of the Church's seasons, significant dates and the curriculum when planning the sessions and have the flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community. Collective Worship is evaluated regularly by staff and pupils during the sessions, at staff meetings and by the use of a wide variety of worship experiences.

At St. Luke's School we record our Collective Worship through displays, collections of pupil's contributions, prayers, reflection, photography and videos. We also record our Collective Worship themes in our R.E. end of topic pupil assessments along with the R.E. planning sheets.

### **Format for the Celebration of Collective Worship**

- Collective Worship in all scenarios particularly those of a larger format should always follow the following liturgical structure:
  - Gather - how we come together, the setting, the environment
  - Listen - the as Word of God is proclaimed
  - Response - the response to the Word leads into a time of prayerful reflection which may be accompanied by a symbolic action
  - Going Forth - giving the children something to hold on to from the experience of the session that they can take into their daily lives.
- Collective worship can be offered for a class, year group or whole school. It can be led by the pupils, staff or visitors. As confidence with Collective Worship develops the pupils should have a greater involvement with its planning and delivery.
- In class to enable children to concentrate in class collective worship it would be helpful to light a candle.
- Ensure that the theme, focus, delivery, length and resources are appropriate to the interest, age range, background and ability of pupils.
- In collective worship the word of God should be at the heart of the celebration. This should be delivered in an age appropriate form.

- Provide a focus using artefacts, candles, symbols and lighting a candle at the start of prayers.
- Set an appropriate atmosphere with a sense of order and occasion including entry and exit if appropriate.
- Use a balance of quiet reflection, silence, prayers, responses, music, songs, dance, drama, slides, video excerpts or short address.
- Respect the freedom of pupils and staff in the invitation to prayer and worship.
- Prayers can be traditional, the child say's own or a combination.
- Ensure the possibility of conscious active participation of all present.
- Keep it short, simple and moving to maintain children's attention between 5 - 10 minutes.

### **Resources**

Resources for Collective Worship can be found in the R.E. section of the One Drive (Shared Drive.) along with physical resources that can be found in the class Collective Worship Box.

### **Conclusion**

At St. Luke's School we take time to ensure that our Collective Worship is concerned with the honour and glory of God in a way that is rich and meaningful.

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