

Our Lady & St Paul's R.C. Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

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Mission Statement

"If I am without love. I am nothing." 1 Corinthians 13:2

At Our Lady and St Paul's we encourage each other to love, learn and live as friends of Jesus Christ.

We aim...

- to encourage every member of our school community, children and adults, to grow in faith.
- to encourage a love for learning and a thirst for knowledge to enable all children to reach their full academic potential.
- to encourage our children to grow and develop their talents, skills and enquiring minds.
- to encourage our school community to have trust, respect and love for everyone.

We will achieve this by...

- providing opportunities for prayer, worship and Religious Education.
- providing an engaging curriculum which will inspire lifelong learning.
- providing opportunities for children to have enriching experiences beyond the classroom.
- providing opportunities for our school to reach out and embrace the parish and wider community.

Rationale

Collective Worship in a Catholic School, while respecting diversity of belief and commitment, will be Catholic in character.

It will reflect the tradition of the Church and will have Christ at its heart.

Our policy at Our Lady and St Pauls centres around the Catholic Virtues and how we can live and experience these in our every day lives.

1. Legal requirements

- A daily Act of Collective Worship must be provided for all pupils in school.
- The Act must occur in school time, but not necessarily at the beginning of the school day.
- The whole school need not be present at the time of Collective Worship.
- All Acts of Collective Worship, whether 'broadly Christian' or not must take account of :
 - The pupils' age and aptitudes.
 - Their family background.
- The Headteacher, in consultation with the Governing Body, is responsible for ensuring that
- Collective Worship is provided for all pupils every day.

2. The Aims of the 'Virtues to live by' approach

At Our Lady and St Pauls we aim to inspire our pupils to live their lives with Christ at the centre. It is our aim to make prayer and worship an integral part of school life. Through our collective worship, the children are invited to develop and strengthen a living relationship with God and to go out and be witness to His message through living out the example given to us by Jesus Christ.

To do this, we focus our collective worship around the eight Catholic virtues: faith, hope, love, charity, justice, solidarity, temperance and courage. Their guiding principles are:

To ensure children and young people are given opportunities to:

1. Experience a positive and purposeful ethos providing a sense of belonging to their school community.
2. Grow in their knowledge and understanding of the virtues.
3. Practise the virtues to further the call to live life to the full.
4. Appreciate the connection between biblical and practical wisdom and living.
5. Hear the Christian story and encounter it in practice.
6. Understand their uniqueness and dignity as made in the image and likeness of God.
7. Know that our limitations are also opportunities for growth.
8. To notice, to reflect, to pray and to play
9. To exercise the cognitive, affective and behavioural components of character: know it in your head, feel it in your heart and show it with your hands.

The Aims of Collective Worship

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

- 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.'

Principles

All Acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Be 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
 - be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

3. Organisation

Collective worship takes places every day at the following times:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
am	Whole school liturgy - hall	Class mass (once a half term per class)	Singing Worship 9am - KS2 10am – EYFS & KS1	Class Liturgy (pupil led)	Whole school <i>Class Assembly (if applicable)</i> And Celebration assembly - hall
pm		Phase liturgy Y1-3 12:45 Y4-6 1:00			

Prayer and Liturgy take place in a variety of ways:

- Silent prayer
- Reflections
- Mass
- Spontaneous acts of prayer
- Through music

Mass

We celebrate Mass, as a whole school, at key points in the year. Some examples of these are:

- At the beginning and end of each term
- For Key liturgical dates
- Year 6 leaver's Mass

Classes also attend Mass weekly on a rota basis in our school sanctuary, once every half term. It is our intention that KS2 pupils will attend mass over at church at least once a term and the whole school once a year.

Our school GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Chaplaincy teams also plan and organise worships throughout the year in the Sanctuary or Outdoor Chapel on the themes of:

- The Rosary (daily during October and May)
- Remembrance – 11th November
- The Jesse tree (daily throughout Advent)
- Candlemas – 2nd February
- The Stations of the Cross (daily throughout Lent)

Parental involvement

Parents and guardians are invited to come into school to watch class assemblies and attend Mass. They are also invited to Nativity and Carol services, along with the end of year Mass.

Prayer bags are also sent home at the following points in the year containing resources and prayers to share with their child at home, as the Primary educators of their child in the faith.

- A Rosary bag in October and May
- An Advent bag containing the Nativity story during Advent
- A Lenten bag

Resources

Each class has been given a basket containing, but not limited to:

- A bible
- daily prayers

- a bowl for water
- shells
- pebbles
- cards with inspiration for worship
- battery operated tea lights
- cloth in the liturgical colours

There are also resources to help support the planning and delivery of the rosary and Jesse tree workshops that run each lunchtime liturgically by the GIFT team.

4. The Planning, Content and Delivery of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is planned:

- following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, 'Come and See', the Catholic Virtues to live by, significant dates and the curriculum. Scripture will be the focus in most acts of worship
- involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to school aims and policies
- 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 rather than always participating or contributing in a token way.

Whilst our worship timetable is planned in advance, we also take the opportunity to respond to unexpected events, within the children's experiences, by coming together in prayer.

All pupil led liturgical prayers have a theme and follow a similar plan.

Welcome: How we begin – Quiet music creating an atmosphere of prayer. There are several ways in which pupils can choose we gather together, for example:

A piece of music is used which the children recognise as opening our liturgies.

Word: Reading from scriptures, psalms, poems or songs. Use of power point.

A time to pause and contemplate the message they have heard.

Response to Word: What pupils will do to respond to the reading they have heard.

Quiet reflection, formal / informal prayer / respond to bidding prayers. Place stone at foot of cross.

Witness: How the children will carry the message with them into their day – how they can show witness to the Word of God.

Card, scripture passage, task for them to complete.

Pupils in year 2 and above plan their own classroom liturgical prayers on virtue to live by of the week throughout the year and lead them with their peers in class. Pupils in year 1 will plan and facilitate with the help of an adult in class. Pupils in EYFS will be taught the foundations of prayer and worship at an age-appropriate level. (see Appendix 1)

Singing worship

Singing worship occurs every Wednesday in Key Stages. Songs are planned to fit the liturgical year and are progressive and appropriate for the age group of the child. Pupils in EYFS will join KS1 form January onwards. See Appendix 3 for more information

Daily prayers

Prayers are said three times a day (morning, lunch and end of day) by the weekly prayer leader in each class. As well as our class prayers (see appendix 4) pupils are also taught traditional Catholic prayers and responses to Mass (see also appendix 4)

Spontaneous Prayer

Pupils also have the opportunity to pray at break and lunch times by writing spontaneous petitions and putting them either into the prayer cross or prayer basket (depending on which floor of the school they are at). These prayers are then collected every Monday afternoon and placed in front of the altar on Tuesday morning during class mass so that their petitions may be heard and offered to God.

5. Inclusion and Equality:

The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that our school strives to do the best for all of the pupils, irrespective of disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sex, gender identity, religion or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children. All pupils in our school, irrespective of ability, faith and background will have appropriate access to all elements and aspects of collective worship.

6. Assessment, Monitoring, Recording and Reporting:

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- on a liturgy planner to keep note of themes, leaders, pupil groupings and resources and then stored in a class worship folder.
- through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos etc.

Monitoring and Evaluation

At least once a year the school's provision of worship will be 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.

7. Management of the subject:

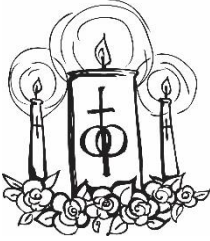
Amy McGlade the RE Lead has responsibility for leading, managing and supporting the delivery of and training in Religious Education. (see Appendix 2)

Policy Review:

This policy will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed by Amy McGlade, Marie Gavin and the Governing Body and updated every two years.

(next review due in September 2024)

Appendix 1

Year:	Date:	Worship Leaders:	Focus
Focal Point 		What will your focal point look like? (Describe or draw) We will need:	What others will do:
Creating the mood		How will you create the right mood/ atmosphere as people gather to worship? Music: Lighting: Seating:	
Welcome (Gather): <i>We come together as part of God's family. Make everyone welcome!</i>			

Word: *God speaks to us and we listen.*

Response to word: (*prayer / symbolic action*):
We respond to the Word of God.

Witness: (*mission / go forth*)
We want to share the Good News!

What our class friends thought:

Appendix 2

The Role of the RE Lead

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship which may at times form part of the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family 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 and Virtues to Live By
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing, on occasions, an Act of Collective Worship
- Informing the headteacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship

Communication

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts 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 GIFT Chaplaincy leader
- Liaison with the Diocesan RE Centre

Professional development / Ongoing formation

- Leading and organising inservice training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses and reporting back
- 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

Singing worship 2022-23

Autumn 1

	KS1	KS2
September	Gather gather This little light of mine Jesus you're my superhero Follow me We come to the table	For you are always close to me My lighthouse There is someone who knows me This is my body Do not be afraid I am with you
October (Mary)	Ave Maria Immaculate Mary	Ave Maria Immaculate Mary

Autumn 2

	KS1	KS2
November	O when the saints go marching in We come to the table Make me a channel of your peace	O when the saints go marching in Do not be afraid I am with you This is my body
December	(songs from their Nativity)	Mary did you know? We wish you a merry Christmas Christ be our Light When is he coming? Silent Night It was on a starry night We three kings

Spring 1

	KS1	KS2
January	(Epiphany – We three kings) Christ be our light (chorus) This little light of mine Sing it in the Valleys	(Epiphany – We three kings) Christ be our light Walk in the light of the Lord Blessed are you lord, God of all creation Sing it in the Valleys
February	Shine Jesus Shine (chorus) Let there be love All that I am	Let there be love Love perfect love All that I am Blessed are you lord, God of all creation Shine Jesus Shine

Spring 2

	KS1	KS2
March	Freely freely Servant king Lord of the dance	Freely freely Servant king You are mine (do not be afraid) Lord of the dance Amazing Grace
April (1 week)	Servant king Be still for the presence of the Lord	Blessed are you lord, God of all creation Servant king Be still for the presence of the Lord Amazing Grace

	KS1	KS2
April (Easter)	We are the free (yours is the glory) Shine Jesus Shine Christ be our light (Easter verses) Sing hosanna	Shine Jesus shine Walk in the light of the Lord We are the free (yours is the glory) Christ be our light (Easter verses) Sing Hosanna
May (Mary) And Pentecost	Ave Maria Immaculate Mary Hail Mary (gentle woman) Shine Jesus Shine	Fruits of the Spirit Ave Maria Immaculate Mary Hail Mary (gentle woman)

	KS1	KS2
June	One more step along the world I go I will be with you (wherever you go) Follow me Sing it in the Valleys	One more step along the world I go I will be with you (wherever you go) Go tell everyone Sing it in the valleys
July	Abba Father Here I am Lord He's got the whole world in his hands	Abba Father Here I am Lord Come, now is the time to worship This is our world

Appendix 4
Daily prayers

<u>Morning</u>	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Evening</u>
O my God I give to you, All I think or say or do All my work and all my play I will give to you today Amen	Bless us O God, as we sit together. Bless the food we eat today. Bless the hands that make the food. Bless us O God, Amen	O my God, I've come to say Thank you for your love today. Thank you for my family and all the friends you give to me. Guard me in the dark of night, And in the morning send your light. Amen

Prayers taught per phase

EYFS	KS1	LKS2	UKS2
Sign of the cross Start of the day Lunch prayer End of day Hail Mary	Sign of the cross Start of the day Lunch prayer End of day Hail Mary Litany of saints (pray for us) Glory Be Our Father Common Mass responses (readings)	Sign of the cross Start of the day Lunch prayer End of day Hail Mary Litany of saints (pray for us) Glory Be Our Father Common Mass responses (readings) Prayer to the Guardian angel Act of contrition Common mass responses for Eucharist Prayer of St Francis Assisi	Sign of the cross Start of the day Lunch prayer End of day Hail Mary Litany of saints (pray for us) Glory Be Our Father Common Mass responses (readings) Prayer to the Guardian angel Act of contrition Common mass responses for Eucharist Prayer of St Francis Assisi Holy Holy Holy Gloria