

In God's love we believe and achieve



St. Michael's

Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Mission Statement

In God's love we believe and achieve

As a welcoming Catholic community we will:

- **Follow in the footsteps of Jesus**
- **Deliver the best possible education for all of our children**
- **Value and love each other in our school and our community**
- **Provide an inclusive environment where everybody reaches their full potential**



Collective Worship Policy

Collective worship in St. Michael's Catholic Primary School is an integral part of school life. While respecting diversity of belief and commitment, it is Catholic in character and has Christ at its heart. It celebrates God's presence in our lives and is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It reflects the tradition of the Church and its belief in the Holy Trinity.

The Purpose of Collective Worship at St. Michael's

- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit.
- To promote spiritual, cultural and moral development.
- To provide opportunity for children to share and express their thoughts and feelings.

Aims of Collective Worship

- To provide opportunities for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To reflect on values and concerns of the school community and the wider community it serves.
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response.
- To enable children to gain insight into ways in which people express themselves within their faith commitments and to be sensitive to those different ways of responding.
- To encourage participation and response, through active involvement in the planning and presentation of worship.
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

Objectives of Collective Worship

To develop a sense of:

- Awe, wonder and mystery.
- Interdependence with the natural world.
- Pattern, sequence and order.
- Self-worth and value of others.

To develop an awareness:

- That life involves choices of belief, attitude, behaviour and relationships.
- That there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life.

At St. Michael's, all collective worship is based on the principles that they should be:

- Spiritual.
- Reflective.
- Inclusive.

and contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children. They are seen as special times, concerned with the glory and honour of God. Children feel secure and relaxed in a friendly, prayerful atmosphere which fosters positive feelings and a sense of community. Children are encouraged to participate in all areas of the preparation and delivery of collective worship.

Principles of Collective Worship

All acts of collective worship in our school should be inclusive:

- Pupil centred, related to pupils own experiences and relevant to their lives.
- Acknowledge diversity.
- Involve pupils as active participants.
- Match the needs of pupils.
- Foster a sense of community.

They should be spiritual:

- Time for stillness and reflection.
- A special time - conducive to worship.
- Children should feel calm, relaxed and secure.
- Include a variety of words, music and images.
- Provide opportunities for children to take part in a variety of spiritual opportunities.
- Provide opportunity for children to take an active part in collective worship.

Collective worship could be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain:

- Related to learning experiences across the curriculum.
- Related to pupils own life experiences.
- Celebrate educational achievements and talents.

Collective Worship Resources

For class collective worship, all teachers have access to Ten Ten classroom prayer resources. A collective worship folder on our Teacher share and audited symbols e.g. crosses, candles, cloths etc.

Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective worship is organised as follows:

Monday - whole school

Tuesday - Class

Wednesday - Key stage collective worship KS2/Class KS1

Thursday - Class

Friday - Class KS2/Key stage collective worship KS1

Class collective worship takes place at a convenient time for the class teacher.

Rejoice Assemblies

At the end of each *Come and See* topic, the whole school celebrates with a Rejoice assembly, to which parents and carers are invited. Each class prepares a rejoice assembly once a year.

Liturgies in School

Class masses and prayer services, to which parents and friends are invited, take place throughout the school year in church.

The experience of stillness, peace, awe, wonder, mystery, celebration, reverence and belonging are of central importance in promoting spiritual development. Such values will be explored, celebrated and reflected upon in collective worship in a manner that compliments the way they are taught in the classroom and communicated through the ethos of the school.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly.

The Collective Worship Policy has been reviewed by the Governing body and Signed off by Mike Volynchok, Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing body in October 2023.

Signed copy available from school office