

# St Anne's C of E (A) Primary School



## Collective Worship Policy

*'Let all that you do be done in Love' 1 Corinthians 16:14*

St Anne's strives to *'develop the whole child, spiritually, mentally and physically* by helping pupils to:

- Love God
- Love learning and
- Love themselves and others

in a caring, Christian environment through close links to the Church and community.

## **Collective Worship Policy.**

At St. Anne's C of E (A) Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life.

Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our Mission statement.

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St Anne's strives to *'develop the whole child, spiritually, mentally and physically* by helping pupils to:

Love God  
Love learning and  
Love themselves and others

within a caring, Christian environment.

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements together.

### **1. Aims and purpose.**

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God;
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- to encourage participation and response;
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- to teach children how to worship.

### **2. Collective worship.**

2.1. We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly.

2.2. In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that 'collective worship should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. Our collective worship we explore the following Christian values:

forgiveness, fairness, respect and tolerance of others, integrity, compassion, honesty and self-worth. These values are embodied in the New Commandment that Jesus

gave us:

John 13:34-35

“...love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples”.

We also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

### **3. Organisation of collective worship.**

3.1. We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. We hold a daily act of collective worship in school which is whole school, KS1 / KS2 or class based.

3.2. We hold a whole school collective act of worship on a weekly basis, led by a member of St Anne's Church. Half termly collective worship, end of term assemblies and celebrations of special days in the church calendar are held in Church and a Nativity play is performed each Christmas. Pupils are also invited to help with some Church events, e.g. Mothering Sunday and Christian Aid. A production which takes a religious theme is held in Church as appropriate.

3.3. The head teacher leads collective worship on Mondays and the Deputy Head on Thursdays. Tuesdays are delivered on a rota basis. Wednesdays are led by a member of St Anne's Church. In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship. We aim to include the children in the planning and deliver of our Collective Worship, wherever possible

3.4. We conduct our worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that worship time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and songs.

3.5. We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and we also reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. The themes of our worship can also reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the School Curriculum.

3.6. The worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music for the week. The title of this piece of music is shared with the children and could come from a variety of cultures.

3.7. The candle on the altar table is lit and the worship begins. The children are regularly involved in the worship, which finishes with a prayer. The candles are then blown out before any messages are given. This allows for us to make a

clear distinction between worship and assembly. The children then lead out as the music is played.

3.8. Our Friday' Celebration Star of The Week Assembly' reflects the achievements and learning of the children in and outside of school. Normally, teachers choose two members of their class to receive a special mention and certificate.

3.9. Parents are invited into Star of the week assemblies, class assemblies and at the end of term, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and the school work together to support the achievements of our children.

3.10. We welcome governors' attendance at our worship and assemblies at any time.

#### **4. Prayer and Reflection**

4.1. Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and published prayers. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet. The school has actively developed the children's confidence in reciting simple liturgy.

A cross is also displayed on the altar table.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said in the classroom by the adults and children. Prayers are also said at the end of the school day.

Every class room has a Reflective Area, where values are explicitly shared and where a prayer book and bible can be found. Children can use these spaces if they need a moment to reflect during the school day.

#### **5. Other Faiths**

5.1. At Anne's our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values and we are also committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. The class led acts of worship may portray other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the curriculum requirements.

#### **6. Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring**

6.1. A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship. Evaluations will also be recorded here. Training is encouraged and available for those who wish to lead acts of worship.

The R.E. coordinator and link governor liaise to discuss various aspects of R.E. and this ensures an effective line of communication between the coordinator and the governing body.

## **7. Equal Opportunities and Special Needs Issues**

7.1. All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of R.E. At each Key Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.

## **8. Right of withdrawal.**

8.1. We expect all children to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

8.2. The head teacher will keep a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

Reviewed: January 2019  
Agreed by Governing Body:  
Next Review January 2022