



St. Anne's CE Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Reviewed and updated

May 2019

Minds to learn, hearts to care.



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." *Matthew 22:37-39*



*Our school vision is to be the best version of ourselves
that God created us to be - with minds to learn and hearts to care.*

Our values are the building blocks for strong foundations for lifelong learning and lifelong faith.



Vision and Values

Our school vision is to be the best version of ourselves that God created us to be – with minds to learn and hearts to care.

Who are we as a school? This is our deeply Christian vision which is firmly rooted in the bible.

Jesus summed up his most important teaching by quoting the greatest commandment – love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul with all your mind. And love your neighbour as yourself. (Matthew 22v37-39) At St Anne's our vision is for everyone who is part of our school community to live life to the full and to treat everyone with compassion and respect.

This vision shapes all we do and helps us understand who we are as a school, why we are here, and then how we live. Our values are the building blocks for strong foundations for lifelong learning and lifelong faith.

Why are we here? These are our values:

Loving God with all of our heart

We want everyone at St Anne's to be the best version of themselves. We believe this is about everyone being authentic, open and honest.

We are dedicated to continuous improvement, challenging ourselves, celebrating our successes and always aspiring to be "the best we can be".

To enable each child and adult to flourish and achieve.

Loving God with all our soul

We want to nurture the spiritual life of everyone in our school family recognising that "spirituality is like a bird; if you hold it too tightly, it chokes; if you hold it too loosely, it flies away. Fundamental to spirituality is the absence of force." Rabbi Hugo Gryn

To promote our Christian ethos and values through lively, intelligent and creative participation.

To provide an inviting, inclusive school environment where all members of the school community, of all faiths or none, are valued, respected and care for one another.

To encourage and develop links between the school, home, our parishes and the local, national and global community.

Loving God with all our mind

To provide a high quality and nurturing learning environment.

To be dedicated to continuous improvement, challenging ourselves, celebrating our successes and always aspiring to be "the best we can be".

To enable each child and adult to flourish and achieve.

How then do we live? All of this shapes our school life.

Daily collective worship is at the centre of school life and enables children to experience the diversity of Christian practice and tradition.

High quality, effective, academic religious education allows pupils and adults alike to flourish.

Throughout all our school life our Christian vision and values promote social and cultural development through the practice of forgiveness and reconciliation. They encourage good mental health and enable children and adults, whatever their background or ability, to flourish and live well together.

The vision is used to ensure our policies, curriculum and extracurricular opportunities meet the academic and spiritual needs of all learners.

We describe all our activities in terms of how the vision and values inspire our whole school community, children and adults, to engage in social action and to be courageous advocates for change in their local, national and global communities

Our Christian vision supports the character and moral development of all pupils and adults, giving them aspiration for themselves and hope for the communities of which they are a part. It fosters dignity and respect, enabling everyone to be the person God created them to be, to achieve the most they can, and to inspire hope for others in the local community and beyond.

St Anne's Church of England Primary School Collective Worship Policy.

Rationale

Collective Worship at St Anne's CE Primary School takes place daily in accordance with provisions of the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998

The contents of all our collective acts of worship is in accordance with the aims of the school/ Trust Deeds.

This policy has been prepared by the governors and head teacher with the assistance from the school Chaplain who coordinates Collective Worship and the incumbent.

Aims

Pupils who do not come from Christian families should be able to join the daily act of collective worship, even though this would, in the main, reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief.

We aim to provide collective worship that provides pupils with the opportunity to;

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their spirituality
- participate and respond
- to promote a common ethos and shared values
- to help pupils develop respect and sensitivity to the beliefs and values of others promoting respect, tolerance and understanding for those with differing beliefs and backgrounds.

Practicalities

Worship takes place daily

Monday	Whole school worship led by the School Chaplain and/or visitors
Tuesday	Key Stage worship rotated amongst class teachers
Wednesday	Whole school worship and singing led by the members of the SLT
Thursday	Individual class worship
Friday	Prayer and praise assembly

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from collective worship if they so wish as outlined in our school prospectus however children are not withdrawn from collective worship for any other purposes, e.g. reading, music lessons.

Definition of Collective worship

What is Worship?

- Worship is:
- the submission of all our nature to God;
- the awakening of our conscience by his holiness;
- the nourishment of our minds with his truth;
- the opening of our hearts by his love;
- the surrender of our will to his purpose.

What is collective worship?

Christian worship is an honouring of God. It acknowledges His transcendence and Holiness, His "worth" and "value"; it is a loving response to His nature as revealed in Jesus Christ. Worship stems from personal experience; it is a central characteristic of faith communities which are in relationship with God.

We can never make anyone worship because it is an attitude of the heart focused on God; in the school situation "the most" we can do is lead people to the threshold of worship by providing a setting where they may worship God if they so wish.

Collective worship only takes place in schools. It is a term which is used only in education, whereas churches and religions usually think of their worship as being corporate. The implication of this is that when a group of people with shared beliefs gather together with the intention of sharing worship then this is a **corporate** activity. **No such assumptions about shared beliefs can be made in the case of a school community, even in a church school.**

The school is a collection of people who come from a variety of backgrounds and who happen to be together primarily for the purpose of education, not for worship. The family backgrounds of pupils may be very different in terms of beliefs and adherence to religion, from the atheist, secular humanist to a devout background of a faith, either Christian or another world religion.

In collective worship children and adults will be responding to the worship on offer in different ways and at different levels; some will be passive observers, learning about worship but not participating in it; some will be "at the threshold", interested in the process and participating in it but not full believers; for others the act of collective worship may be a time of real worship of God.

It is the task of collective worship to provide a setting in which the integrity of those present is not compromised but in which everyone finds something positive for themselves.

Management, planning and evaluation of Collective Worship

Collective worship is led and management by the school chaplain in partnership with the Head teacher. We follow a programme designed and resourced by the school Chaplain which gives us clear themes and resources to follow throughout the year. This resource forms the basis of the guidance packs for staff produced by the school chaplain and includes appropriate planning and evaluations to be completed after each collective worship. This pack also includes direction on leading classroom worship and prayer.

Reviewed: June 2020

Next review: June 2021

Head Teacher Mrs L. Sixsmith

School Chaplain: Mrs C Simpson

Foundation Governor: Rev Matt Keddily
