



# St Anne's RC Primary

*'We Grow Together in God's Love'*

## **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP Policy 2021**

### **Mission Statement**

We grow together as a Catholic Faith Community, as we follow and promote Gospel values in all we do. We grow together in wisdom, as we encourage each child to achieve their full potential, academically, spiritually and socially and in a spirit of confidence. We grow together in respect, friendship and responsibility, as we reach out to those in our wider community.

We Grow Together in God's Love.

### **Rationale:**

*'We seek to encourage each child to develop his or her individual abilities: spiritual, academic and social, as fully as possible and in a spirit of confidence.'*

### **Introduction:**

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

### **Legal Requirements:**

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. The act of worship is not designated curriculum time and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

In this school, as with any Voluntary Aided School, responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the headteacher.

### **The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of Our School:**

We endorse the belief that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions, or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds
- It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain

We will continue to foster and deepen the children's personal relationship with God our Father daily in prayer. We do this by helping them become aware of God's Presence in their lives and of His love for them by leading them to respond to Him in a manner suited to their age. This may be in one of the following ways:

- Prayer of silence
- Spontaneous prayer
- Praying through gesture or action
- Formal prayer

Prayer will not be confined to an act of worship. Children are encouraged to pray in the morning and in the evening.

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

### **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 that are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To make time to 'wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to'

### **Principles**

All acts of worship in St Anne's RC Primary School will:

- Give glory and honour to God;
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Enable pupils to develop skills so that they can prepare, organise and lead worship;
- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.
- Celebrations will be appropriate to the age and groupings
- of the children.

When Collective Worship will take place:

- Prayers at the beginning and end of the day, take place in each class, every day.
- Prayers of thanks before and after meals.
- Monday – whole school assembly (via google/zoom) 9am
- Tuesday and Thursday – collective worship in classes
- Wednesday – face-to-face assemblies on a rota (classes to do them in class if not scheduled for an assembly) – 10am
- Friday – whole school celebration assembly (via google/zoom) – 2:40pm
- Special class Masses take place, throughout the year, in the children's

classrooms.

(All Mass dates are set with the Parish Priest and the RE coordinators at the beginning of each term).

### **Partnerships with Parents:**

As part of the Church community the School encourages pupils to become involved in Parish life through activities like Children's Liturgy.

Liturgies and celebrations and events related to the Catholic Life of our school are shared in school newsletters and on Facebook and are published on the school website.

Parents of pupils in Sacramental year groups are also invited to Sacramental Meetings

### **Planning:**

Collective Worship in this school is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, significant dates and the RE Curriculum Directory.

- Plans will be broadly based on each year group's long term planning for liturgies.
- Scripture will be the focus for most acts of worship
- It will relate to the school community in the light of the school's aims and Mission
- There will be flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- We will aim to teach children the skills to enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship

### **Monitoring and Evaluation:**

Throughout the year, as part of the school's monitoring calendar, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of pupils and whether it truly reflects the aims and mission of the school.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

#### **Governors Role**

It is the Governors' role to agree, monitor and review the policy. Monitoring takes place through;

- Visits to school by Governors with particular responsibilities. Also, annual monitoring visit to classrooms by curriculum committee, focus dependent on SDP priorities.
- Committee Meetings with regular reports to full governing body
- Headteacher Reports to Governing Body and presentations by subject leaders.

#### **Headteacher's Role**

- The Headteacher will take lead responsibility for the development, monitoring and implementation of the policy and reporting to the Governing Body.
- Monitoring will take place through classroom observation, scrutiny of books, discussion with staff and children and implementation of the Performance Management Policy.

### **Subject Leaders Role**

- ❑ With the Head teacher, to share a role in the monitoring and evaluation of this policy throughout the school.
- ❑ To encourage other members of staff in their delivery of Collective worship and to give support where appropriate.
- ❑ To keep up to date with current good practice and with national changes within the Collective Worship.
- ❑ To evaluate and update the Policy and Scheme and resources on a regular basis.
- ❑ To assist the Head teacher and Governors in the development of the School Improvement Plan.
- ❑ To feedback to Governors on implementation and impact of Collective Worship.
- ❑ To manage a budget to purchase in line with the school's needs.
- ❑ To support members of staff in the use of effective planning, assessment and recording systems.
- ❑ To maintain a high standard of Collective Worship in his/her own classroom and ensure that Collective Worship keeps a high profile within the school.

### **Role of Teachers and Teaching Assistants**

- ❑ To work alongside subject leaders to implement this policy

### **Inclusion:**

Underpinned by our Catholic belief that all children are unique, precious children of God, we aim that our approach to teaching will meet the needs of all pupils, irrespective of culture, religion, race, gender and ability. We aim for excellent achievement for all children. This policy links with policies for: SEND, Equality and School Aims.

### **Review**

This policy is a working document and will be reviewed regularly in line with the SDP priorities.

Next review: Autumn 2024