

St. Winefride's Catholic Primary School



Prayer and Collective Worship Policy

Mission Statement

*To provide excellence in all aspects of school life,
embedded in the values and beliefs of the Catholic faith.*

Vision Statement

*To be an outstanding school where every member reaches
their true potential and knows the joy of a
personal relationship with Jesus Christ.*

Date of issue	Review date	Date ratified by Governing Body
14 November 2012	January 2016	14 November 2012 9 February 2016

ST. WINEFRIDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Prayer And Collective Worship Policy

1. Rationale

At St. Winefride's School we believe that regular, planned and varied Collective Worship is a vital experience to be shared, not to meet Legal requirements, but as an essential element in achieving our Mission. Approximately 75% of our children are Baptised Catholic, (a large number of whom are raised by parents who are not practising Catholics), the remainder have another faith or no specific faith group. We are committed to giving all children an understanding of how Catholics worship and pray and the opportunity to explore their own beliefs. We believe that children need to understand that they are made up of many parts including a spiritual element and that Collective Worship allows us to develop the spiritual side and contemplate the mystery of God, their relationship with him and their sense of belonging to a spiritual community.

2. Aims

- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- Consider our Catholic School Mission and vision.
- Enrich religious experience.
- Promote the positivity and joy of knowing Christ.
- Reinforce the Catholic traditions.
- Take time to be still and wonder at all of God's creation.

3. We define Collective Worship at St. Winefride's as:

Planned activities in a range of groupings, which give glory and honour to God and give the children positive liturgical or Eucharistic experiences appropriate to their age and church calendar

4. We define Prayer at St. Winefride's as:

A form of communication; a way of talking to God.

5. Prayer In Practice:

- Traditional Catholic prayers learnt by heart.
- Prayers and hymns read, sung and shared from published books or children's work.
- Personal/informal "conversations" with God to praise, thank, ask, tell or share.
- "Listening Prayers" – periods of stillness and silence.
- Hymns and Psalms
- Prayers said at the start and end of each learning session that all Catholic school children say.
- The St Winefride's School prayer
- The St Winefride's School Hymn (the school prayer set to music)

6. Collective worship in practice

- A daily liturgy is held in classes led by: teachers in E.Y. & Key stage 1 with an increasing amount of CW in KS2 being planned and lead by the children.
- There is a planned calendar of larger group CW, where the Head Teacher or groups of children lead the liturgy with focus on either the School Mission, vision and aims or related to the Church's calendar.

- Mass is celebrated in school each Friday morning by the Parish Priest or assistant priest and parishioners and parents join us and a different class prepare and lead each week.
- In Key stage 1 a Non-Eucharistic service is led by teaching staff.
- Once per half-term Early Years Foundation Stage and K.S.1 join together for the Friday Mass in school instead of K.S.2.
- Key Stage 2 have Benediction in church at pre-arranged times in the year.

The Prayer Room / St Cecilia room.

Key stage 2 children lead their own prayer groups in the Prayer room throughout the year and especially during Advent and Lent. Staff are invited to go.

Governors and all staff review policy every two years.