



Collective Worship Policy

Date:	May 2019	Review:	May 2022
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Our Mission Statement says:

‘We are a family who love, believe and achieve together’

Aims:

We believe that Collective Worship at St Margaret Ward 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 which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To wonder at ...
- To participate fully

Principles

All Acts of Worship in our school will:

- Give glory and honour to God
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church. In order to do this, celebrations will:
 - Be appropriately paced
 - Include a range of experiences

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
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

Hymn practice

Traditional and modern hymns are learnt and sung and are in keeping with the liturgical cycle, feasts and preparation for whole school Masses and major Liturgical Services. Hymn practice takes place weekly led by a music specialist teacher.

The planning, content and delivery of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is planned:

- Following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, The Way, the Truth and the Life programme and significant feasts
- With scripture as the focus
- Involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to school aims and policies
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and wider community
- To develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship
- Collective Worship is planned on a Liturgy planner and kept in the Classes' Collective Worship book.

Collective Worship is organised:

- Monday – Whole school assembly led by SLT
- Tuesday – Whole school hymn practice
- Thursday – Celebration Assembly. Led by our headteacher.
- Regular Class led religious assemblies
- Regular Class Collective Worship
- Daily prayers shared from our School Prayer Book
- Our Prayer Group lead collective Worship with classes and small groups
- Collective Worship is planned on a Liturgy planner and kept in the Classes' Collective Worship book.
- Class Masses
- Whole school Masses

In Key Stage Two, children plan and lead acts of Collective Worship. In EYFS and Key Stage One, children will contribute to the planning of Collective Worship with support and direction from their teacher.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- On a Liturgy planner.
- In a Class Collective Worship Book
- Through displays
- Collection of pupils' responses
- Photographs
- Videos
- On Seesaw blog
- School's Twitter account

Monitoring and Evaluation

Throughout the year, Collective Worship will be monitored. This will include observations and looking at the Collective Worship books for each class. Pupils and visitors are invited to evaluate the worship by writing in either the School Comments Book or on the Liturgy planning sheet.

Resources

Resources for Collective Worship can be found in each classroom in their Collective Worship Boxes. These are updated regularly and contain a collection of religious artefacts, Holy books, symbols and candles. Pupils also use our School Prayer Books which contains the prayers from our Prayer Progression Policy.

Eucharist

Eucharist celebrations form a very important part in the life of St Margaret Ward. Children are encouraged to participate in the planning, preparation and leading of the Masses. Parents and the parish community are invited to attend and to meet afterwards to socialise.

The celebrations take the following form:

- Whole school mass celebrating: start of the new school year; end of the school year and Yr 6 Leavers, Holy Days of Obligation, Advent and Lent.
- Regular Class Masses.
- Community Masses where the children lead the Liturgy at a weekend Mass.
- All staff are invited to participate in a Three Parish Mass at the start of the new school year. The three parishes (All Saints', Our Lady of Lourdes and St Margaret Ward) alternate the planning, organising and hosting of this Mass.

Collective Worship – Where?

Classroom

The majority of daily acts of Collective Worship take place in the classroom. These can take the form of:

- Prayers at the beginning of the day
- Grace before or after meals
- Spontaneous prayer
- Reflection
- Meditation
- Prayers at the end of the day
- Prayers through singing praises
- Planned class Collective Worship celebration

On occasion, classes will choose to use the church or go outside as a place to lead Collective Worship.

Collective Worship takes place when we meet as a school community for:

- Assemblies
- Whole school celebrations
- Feast Days or Holy Days of Obligation
- Start and end of the school year
- To celebrate the Sacramental Programme
- Regular Class Masses

Collective Worship – How?

Collective Worship in St. Margaret Ward provides a variety of experiences which:

- can be led by staff, pupils, clergy or visitors
- can be offered as a class, year group, key stage or whole school
- use a balance of reflection, silence, prayer, response, music or song
- provide a focus using artefacts, candles, symbols or lighting
- ensure the experience is appropriate to the age, background and ability of pupils
- respects the freedom of pupils and staff in the invitation to worship
- sets an atmosphere of order and occasion (including entry and exit)
- ensures the possibility of conscious, active participation of all present

Resources may include:

- candles
- natural objects (wood, rocks, flowers etc)
- Objects related to the topic being covered (a gift, a baptismal robe)
- Reflective music
- Bible and Religious story books and School Prayer Books

Marist Centre – Day of Reflection/Prayer

Every child in Key Stage Two is invited to participate in a day of reflection at the Marist Centre in Chorlton.

The focus for their day is:

Year 3 – Reconciliation/Forgiveness

Year 4 – Lent

Year 5 – Lent

Year 6 – Moving On (Linked to transition to high school)

This policy will be reviewed in May 2022.