



## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Collective Worship at St Michael's C of E Primary Academy is fundamental to our ethos as an Anglican Church School and is in accordance with the Trust Deed.

### **School Aim Mission Statement**

At St Michael's C of E Primary Academy School we work together to encourage children to strive towards their full potential in terms of academic attainment and personal, spiritual and moral development. We aim to achieve this within a Christian ethos which encourages respect for and understanding of different faiths and cultures.

Acts of worship should be appropriate to the pupil's ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds while seeing to the needs of the pupils and make a contribution to the whole curriculum.

Collective Worship will take place in accordance with the School's and Education Authority's policy on equal opportunities.

### **Collective Worship Aim**

At St Michael's C of E Primary Academy we aim to ensure that Collective Worship:

- will be promoting the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils.
- will be promoting a sense of self-respect and respect for others.
- will be providing opportunities for pupils to consider attitudes and values.

Setting the mood and creating the right atmosphere for Collective Worship is important. Therefore at St Michael's C of E Primary Academy reflective music is played while the children enter and leave assembly. There is always a church candle, which is lit at the beginning of Collective Worship as a symbol of God's presence and to act as a focus for the children.

Bible reading stories are usually an integral part of the stimuli used in worship to reinforce the main point or theme of the worship.

Where relevant reference is made to faith symbols and artefacts and in particular Anglican symbols. There is also a focus table which reflects the fact that St Michael's C of E Primary Academy is an Anglican Church school.

We encourage the children to be interactive and make responses during Collective Worship.

## Corporate Daily Acts of Collective Worship

Whole school Collective Worship will take place daily in the school hall as follows:

- Monday Collective Worship takes the form of a "celebration assembly". For this occasion individual and class achievement is celebrated and praised. There is an acknowledgment of talents being received from God. There is always time for prayer and reflection. The agreed theme for the week is launched. Parents are encouraged to join us for this Collective Worship.
- Tuesday/Wednesday's Collective Worship is done in separate Key Stages. The theme is continued for the week with the usual pattern of a hymn or song that ties in with the theme and some time for reflection and prayer.
- Thursday's Collective Worship is whole school which reinforces the theme started in the Key Stage Collective Worship, with some time for prayer, reflection and a hymn.
- Friday's collective worship takes the form of a Songs of Praise Hymn Practice. In the main this is a time when Christian songs/hymns will be taught and practised. As part of this assembly time will be set aside for reflection of the weekly theme and there will be a prayer.
- On days when each Key Stage does not come to the hall for Collective Worship each class teacher will take Collective Worship in their own classrooms. This will take the form of circle time. The weekly theme will be used for reflection and there will be a prayer.

## Withdrawal

Where children are withdrawn from Collective Worship to do other activities, teachers/support staff will give time at the start of the session for prayer and reflection.

The whole school will have a calm moment at the end of the day for 2 minutes which is set aside for a time of reflection and prayer on the theme for the week.

**Timetable for Collective Worship is as follows:**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Time</u>
Monday	Head Teacher	9.10 - 9.50
Tuesday	K S 2 Teacher Rota	9.10 - 9.35
Wednesday	K S 1 Teacher Rota	9.10 - 9.35
Thursday	A rota of senior staff, Clergy and other visitors	9.10 - 9.35
Friday	A rotation of senior staff. Songs of Praise	9.10 - 9.45

For each term a weekly assembly theme list will be made available which staff should use when they plan their Collective Worship. However, staff may judge it appropriate not to use the weekly theme due to local, national or international circumstances which warrant special attention.

For each term a rota will be negotiated indicating which members of staff will be responsible for acts of Collective Worship. We encourage the wider community of Christian denominations and other faiths to lead Collective Worship where possible.

In the main Collective Worship will be reflective of Anglican worship. In addition there may be elements of traditions and philosophies which are not Christian.

Collective Worship will contain various stimuli for example stories, poetry, biographies from both the Christian and non-Christian traditions.

One class assembly per class per year should be performed and led by the children. Parents are invited to attend these assemblies which take place on a rotational basis on Fridays.

Collective Worship will always take account of the Christian calendar with appropriate reference made to Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Mothering Sunday, Pentecost.

Armistice Day will be recognized with a special assembly. Pupils will be encouraged to wear their uniforms from a variety of organizations.

It is custom for the pupils to sing the National Anthem as part of the service and carry the poppy wreath to the front as a sign of respect. 2 minutes silence is observed by all pupils.

There will also be other special assemblies e.g. Black History focus, Eid, Diwali, Chinese New Year.

Children are encouraged to learn and say the 'School Prayer' and when appropriate make simple responses to other prayers for example:

Class Prayer

Christian Prayer

- All pupils learn and say the Lords Prayer
- All pupil learn and say the school prayer.
- All pupils/staff sing 'shalom'
- All pupils/staff sing the psalm 'God Be In My Head'
- The Head Teacher says "Peace be with you" and all pupils/staff respond

Other Faith Prayers in home languages

Designated pupils say faith prayers in their home languages.

- Muslim Prayer
- Sikh Prayer
- Hindu Prayer

Staff are requested to record the essential details of acts of worship in the Collective Worship Folder kept in the staff room together with front page withdrawal reference.

Each half term every pupil is given the opportunity to evaluate Collective Worship. In Early Years and Key Stage 1 adults scribe pupils evaluations. In Key Stage 2 pupils evaluate by completing an evaluation form

### Withdrawal

All pupils and staff have the right of withdrawal from collective worship although at St Michael's C of E Primary Academy we actively encourage all staff and children to take part.

Should withdrawal be requested by parents, then parental wishes would be complied with as much as possible. During the withdrawal period, a teaching assistant would supervise the children in a classroom.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher, senior leadership team and whole staff to be presented to the Governors in the event of any changes.