



Policy
for
Collective Worship

Collective Worship.

Introduction.

- This document is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for Collective Worship at St. Richard's R.C Primary School.
- It has been developed through a process of consultation with teaching staff.
- It will be reviewed each year by the whole school in consultation with the Governing Body.

Collective worship at St Richard's R.C Primary School is an integral part of school life. While respecting diversity of belief and commitment, it is Catholic in character and has Christ at its heart. It celebrates God's presence in our lives and is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It reflects the tradition of the Church and its belief in the Holy Trinity.

The Purpose of Collective Worship.

- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit.
- To promote spiritual, cultural and moral development.
- To provide opportunity for children to share and express their thoughts and feelings.

Aims of Collective Worship.

- To provide opportunities for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To reflect on values and concerns of the school community and the wider community it serves.
- To deepen and widen a child's emotional response.
- To enable children to gain insight into ways in which people express themselves within their faith commitments and to be sensitive to those different ways of responding.
- To encourage participation and response, through active involvement in the planning and presentation of worship.
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes.

Objectives of Collective Worship.

To develop a sense of:

- Awe, wonder and mystery.

- Interdependence with the natural world.
- Pattern, sequence and order.
- Self-worth and value of others.

To develop an awareness:

- That life involves choices of belief, attitude, behaviour and relationships.
- That there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life.

At St Richard's, all collective worship is based on the principles that they should be:

- Spiritual.
- Reflective.
- Inclusive.

and contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of children. They are seen as special times, concerned with the glory and honour of God. Children feel secure and relaxed in a friendly, prayerful atmosphere which fosters positive feelings and a sense of community. Children are encouraged to participate in all areas of the preparation and delivery of Collective Worship.

Principles of Collective Worship.

All acts of worship in this school should be

- inclusive.
- Pupil centred, related to pupils own experiences and relevant to their lives.
- Acknowledge diversity.
- Involve pupils as active participants.
- Match the needs of pupils.
- Foster a sense of community.

They should be spiritual:

- Time for stillness and reflection.
- A special time - conducive to worship.
- Children should feel calm, relaxed and secure.

- Include a variety of words, music and images.
- Provide opportunities for children to take part in a variety of spiritual opportunities.
- Provide opportunity for children to take an active part in worship.

Collective Worship could be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain:

- Related to learning experiences across the curriculum.
- Related to pupils own life experiences.
- Celebrate educational achievements and talents.

How Collective Worship is organised.

Collective Worship is carried out daily as part of an assembly or within individual classrooms. On occasions, it takes place in St Richard's Church and outside in the school grounds during the warmer months.

Monday: KS 2 Collective Worship and FS/KS1 Class Collective Worship.
 Tuesday: FS/KS 1 Collective Worship and KS 2 Class Collective Worship.
 Wednesday: FS/KS 1 and KS 2 class Collective Worship.
 Thursday: Whole School Collective Worship/Celebration Assembly
 Friday: FS/KS 1 and KS 2 Class Collective Worship.

At the end of each theme, the whole school celebrates with a Come and See Collective Worship. On a rota basis parents/families are invited into classes to share these celebrations with children. This gives the opportunity to see the good work and learning that has taken place in each class..

Throughout the year special celebrations are held which encourage the children to share and quietly reflect on important events in the Church's year.

Ash Wednesday

Reception and Year 1 present a Palm Sunday celebration.

Year 2 present the Last Supper.

Y5 and Y6 present the Stations of the Cross.

Whole school Sacramental Celebration

Year 3 and Year 4 present an Advent Celebration

Whole School Carol Service

Liturgies in School

Mass is celebrated throughout the school year, usually at the beginning of each term and on Feast days and Holydays. Each class contributes to the Mass by planning one significant section; the music, readings, bidding prayers or the offertory. Class masses and prayer

services, to which parents and friends are invited, take place throughout the school year in the children's classrooms or in St Richard's Church. In addition some of the Parish Friday morning masses are celebrated in school.

Conclusion.

The experience of stillness, peace, awe, wonder, mystery, celebration, reverence and belonging are of central importance in promoting spiritual development. Such values will be explored, celebrated and reflected upon in Collective Worship in a manner that compliments the way they are taught in the classroom and communicated through the ethos of the school.