

Date Written/reviewed September 2021	Date for Review <i>Review is undertaken by the Principal, Link Governor and LGB</i>
Principal Signature: LGB Chair Signature:	<i>This policy will be amended to reflect any changes in the practice described in this document.</i>

St. Katharine's C of E Primary School Collective Worship Policy



From Little Acorns Great Oaks Grow

Objective

In considering the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development our objective is to provide high quality worship that provides a unique space for stillness and reflection within the context of the school day

Aims

As a church school, our worship will always be based on the Christian faith but will include reference to other faiths and belief systems.

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- to help children become more sensitive to the wonders and mysteries of the world around them.
- to help children to reflect on their own existence and the puzzling questions which life poses.
- to encourage children to encounter various kinds of language and symbols and to express their own feelings through them.
- strengthen and support the school and wider community and celebrate each unique individual member made in the image of God.
- give expression to reaffirm and practise the values of the school community.
- allow reflection and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.
- celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.

- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others – a recognition of the vulnerability of self and others.
- respect and awareness of the diversity of belief within our own society and across the world.
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to:
 - ❖ praise and reach out to God
 - ❖ experience stillness and quiet
 - ❖ respond to Christian language and symbolism
 - ❖ experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include: praise, seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others, and quiet reflection.
 - ❖ helping pupils begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship

Approach

- a) Worship will seek to build links with all dimensions of the curriculum, particularly making global links to promote equality and links to PSHE and other planned learning.
- b) Opportunity will be given for pupils to reflect individually on spiritual issues.
- c) Worship is accessible to all children who attend – where possible worship is tailored so that all children can understand and make a contribution.

Organisation of collective worship

We conduct collective worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that collective worship is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We expect them to be quiet and thoughtful and to actively listen to the teachings and to participate fully in prayer, reflection, discussion and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, lighting the candle, and other aids to help children focus.

Daily acts of worship occur for the whole school on four days a week, with different leaders, and for each class separately on the other day. Our children regularly take part in church services and the local Church of England Vicar comes in to lead Worship in school.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Collective Worship	Class Worship	Collective Worship	Singing Worship	Celebration Collective Worship
Where?	Hall	Classrooms	Hall	Hall	Hall
Who?	Headteacher	Class Teacher	Vicar	Music Lead	Headteacher
When?	9:05am	Any time <i>*Usually start of day</i>	9:10am	9:05am	2.45 pm

It is our policy that our Collective Worship should take a variety of forms including:

- (a) Whole school led by the headteacher or a member of the teaching staff.
- (b) Pupil led through the Collective worship Crew*, where pupils on a voluntary basis plan and lead the Collective worship through talk, story, poem, reflection on the Collective Worship theme followed by hymns.
- (c) Sharing – individual children share their successes both social and academic with the whole school and parents.
- (d) Led by visitors, e.g. the Vicar, other Ministers and visitors.

**since returning to whole school worship (post lockdowns) in the academic year 2021/22 we have not resumed pupil led worship in order that we re-establish and tone and practice of whole school , face to face, worship.*

Recording and Evaluation

At St. Katharine's all acts of worship are planned and recorded. The Subject Leader will monitor Collective Worship and it will be evaluated by staff and pupils.

Record of Acts of Worship

Schemes of work for acts of worship will be handed to the class teacher termly. Themes will link with the two year planning cycle, Values for Life and our planned PSHE curriculum to ensure continuity. The Calendar of Festival dates will also be taken into consideration and each year group has a set of Bible stories that can support class worship.

Monitoring

The Collective Worship will be monitored by:

1. Discussion at staff and governor meetings (minutes to be kept with the records). This discussion will include:
 - Review of content and methodology;
 - Suitability for age, aptitude and ability, variety of styles, groupings, leadership;
 - Links to curriculum and classroom experience;
 - Resources and budget;
 - INSET
2. Attendance at worship by foundation governors for monitoring purposes;
3. Ensuring that the requirements of law are being met.

Resources

Tapes, videos, slides, books and artefacts may be used during the Collective Worship. Visitors leading an act of worship will be given precise instructions concerning age and ability of pupils, purpose of occasion and appropriate delivery (content and material used).

Right of Withdrawal

Parents retain the right to withdraw their children. Parents wishing to exercise this right should put their requests in writing to the Headteacher. Teachers' rights are also safeguarded.

Responsibility for Review

Collective worship lead – Ms Niki Jones
Link Governor – Michael McHugh

