



Our Lady of the Rosary  
Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

2021-2

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Christ at the centre, children at the heart

We will promote this through the following areas:

### **SPIRITUALITY**

Forgiveness and reconciliation is at the heart of the school

Participating in daily prayer and reflection

Fulfilling the spiritual needs of the community

Supporting each individual on their spiritual journey

### **FAITH**

Catholic ethos is at the heart of school life

Catholic faith is nurtured in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church

Our children are engaged in the sacramental life of the church

Christian values and a sense of justice for the whole world are evident in the actions of the whole community

### **TEACHING**

Offering a wide range of learning experiences and opportunities

On-going professional development of staff

Delivering high quality education

Being good role models

Delivering a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum

Providing children with consistent rules and consequences

Nurturing each child's God given gifts and talents

We aim through these areas to have:

## **CHILDREN**

Children who are valued as individuals and encouraged to reach their full potential in a safe, loving and secure environment

Children who are confident and have high self esteem

Children who are well behaved, have good manners and feel valued

Children who have the freedom to express their opinions to enable a shared understanding of individuals' values and lifestyles

Children who take responsibility for their own learning

Children who are eager to learn and are prepared for the next stage in their school life

Children who respect the differences of others

## **COMMUNITY**

A community where good levels of communication exist between staff, children, parents, parish

A community where positive friendships and relationships are developed

A community where everyone treating each other with respect

A community where difficult questions are explored without fear or recrimination

A community where people work together to support each other

A community where each person feels accepted and valued

A community who understand that with rights comes responsibilities

A community who celebrate achievements and successes

### **The Nature of Collective Worship**

Collective worship in a Catholic school names and celebrates God's presence in our lives. It is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

'The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.'<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

## **Legal Requirements**

It is a legal requirement that there is a daily act of worship offered for all pupils. This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups. Holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education. Responsibility for arranging Collective Worship lies with the Governing Body after consultation with the headteacher.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured, within Come and See RE curriculum.

## **The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of Our Lady of the Rosary School**

Worship is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

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 – or none;
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

## **The Aims of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship in Our Lady of the Rosary School aims to provide opportunities for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore personal beliefs
- To respond to and to celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and to develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To pray using prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To take time out 'to wonder at', 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to.'

## **Principles**

All acts of worship in Our lady of the Rosary School will:

- Give glory and honour to God;
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Enable pupils to develop skills so that they can prepare, organise and lead worship;

- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.<sup>2</sup> Celebrations will be appropriate to the age and groupings of the children.

### Planning, content and celebration

Collective Worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, Come and See, feast days, the curriculum and significant dates e.g. CAFOD Family Fast Day, Holocaust Memorial Day.

Parish and parents are invited to participate in some celebrations.

A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion.

The timetable of Collective Worship is as below:

Monday	KS2-led by KS2 teachers, HT and AHT on a rota basis (based on the Sunday Gospel) KS1/Foundation Stage-rotas basis (Introduce Autumn 2)
Tuesday	Class based.
Wednesday	Whole school collective worship-child led.
Thursday	Mass in Church-fortnightly (termly whole school Mass then two classes at a time). Class based.
Friday	Class based

Each week each class takes turns to lead the Wednesday liturgy. Parents are invited to complete a follow-up activity in class afterwards.

If there is no set worship taking place then an act of worship will take place in the classroom.

**Due to current COVID restrictions, whole school collective worship cannot take place however, the children will still take part in class based worship.**

### Worship Key Stage 2

- Liturgy based on the Sunday Gospel – Monday morning
- Whole school collective worship: child led liturgies – Wednesday morning.
- Class liturgies and collective worship
- Class and whole school Mass

### Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage

- Liturgy based on the Sunday Gospel – Monday morning
- Whole school collective worship: child led liturgies – Wednesday morning.
- Class and whole school Mass.
- Class liturgies and collective worship

<sup>2</sup> Directory for Masses with Children, paragraph 9.

## **All Key Stages**

- Planned collective worship linked to 'Come and See'.
- Children prepare and lead their own acts of worship within the classroom setting with KS1 children often using the Cardiff resources on occasions where there is not a school/key stage act of worship during the day.

### **Leading collective worship**

As faith leaders of the school, the Headteacher, DHT and RE Co-ordinator will plan and lead collective worship. The class teacher will also model and lead class/ Key Stage collective worship. Children are taught to plan and lead worship according to their age (School Chaplain to support).

### **Recording**

Collective Worship is recorded on a liturgy planner which is given out to staff at the beginning of each term and displayed on the staffroom notice board.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Collective Worship is monitored using Collective Worship monitoring form, (Appendix 1). Following monitoring, training needs will be identified and outcomes used to inform the DSEF.

### **Resources**

Resources for teachers and pupils to use are available on the school network in the RE folder. Each member of staff has access to ten resources. The co-ordinator is responsible for keeping these resources up to date.

### **The learning environment**

'Symbols and icons of the Catholic faith when displayed in school and throughout its premises will help the school community and visitors to experience the uniqueness and sacredness of this learning environment'<sup>3</sup>

Focal points in each classroom and throughout the school will reflect the liturgical season and will reference Come and See topics. In this way they will be an outward sign of the school's ethos.

### **Other opportunities**

Good links exist with the parish. Children regularly attend Mass and at KS2, with support from KS1 pupils, prepare Mass on a termly basis.

### **The coordinator for Collective Worship**

The coordinators are Mrs. Clare Sutherland and Miss Hannah Riddle.

As a Rights Respecting school, we ensure that the key principles: inclusion, nurture and respect are embedded in the Relationships and Sex Education policy.

### **Policy Monitoring and Review**

This policy is monitored by the Collective Worship coordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors every year. The next review date is Autumn 2021. The Foundation Governors in particular will play a most important role.

## **Appendix 1**

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<sup>3</sup> Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

## **The Role of the Coordinator for Collective Worship**

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship included in the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and faith backgrounds of pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory for Masses with Children'
- Organising themes for Worship
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship including withdrawal from collective worship
- Developing staff confidence and expertise e.g. through modelling different prayer styles

### **Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating**

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing Acts of Collective Worship and providing feedback
- Informing the headteacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship
- A planning group, which includes, the coordinator, the headteacher, pupils, governor and school chaplain.

### **Communication**

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Collective Worship
- Reporting to and consulting with the governors and headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acting as consultant to colleagues
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaison with the school chaplain
- Liaison with the Diocesan Department for Education

### **Professional development/Ongoing formation**

- Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses, reporting back and leading staff training
- Keeping up to date by personal reading.

### **Resources**

- Evaluating existing resources
- Developing the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- Budgeting efficiently