



St Paul's Catholic Primary School

**United Through Jesus in Faith, Love and Learning**

**Policy:** **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

**Date of adoption:** The Governing Body of St. Paul's Catholic Primary School ('the School') adopted this policy on **FEBRUARY 2018**

**Date of review:** This policy will be reviewed on **JANUARY 2021**

Our policy for Collective Worship at St Paul's supports our vision and Mission statements by helping our community to come to know and understand God's revelation which is fulfilled in the person of Jesus so that praise, honour and thanksgiving may be given to Him.

Recognising Christ in Everyone We are a community which lives by the Gospel Values of truth, love respect, forgiveness and justice. We seek to provide a stimulating learning environment which celebrates the achievements of every individual and enables them to reach their full spiritual, academic, social, creative and physical potential.

The Nature of Collective Worship We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school 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 with Him, which is made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

### **Legal Requirements**

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship 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.) We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that 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.

The Aims of Collective Worship Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To enable the spiritual development of each child.
- To help children become familiar with the traditional forms of worship in the Catholic Church and to reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition.
- To provide opportunities to develop a relationship with God.
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit.
- To facilitate a growth in knowledge of the person and teachings of Jesus.

We mark the Major Feasts by attending Mass in our Parish Church or in school. Each year parents are invited to attend Masses and Liturgies in school. We have whole school services of Reconciliation during Lent and Advent.

**Policy into Practice:**

- On Mondays whole school Worship takes place and focuses on the Sunday Gospel reading.
- On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays there is Collective Worship in classes. These are sometimes led by the children.
- On one day during the week, each Key Stage has Collective Worship; class teachers take it in turn to prepare this weekly worship.
- House liturgies are organised by House Captains and take place once a fortnight.

**The Planning, Content and Delivery of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is planned:

- Following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, significant dates or the curriculum. Scripture will be the focus in all acts of worship
- With flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- To develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship rather than always participating or contributing in a token way.

**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 or only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions – or none
- Those from other faith backgrounds. It is an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

Equal Opportunities Parents have the right to withdraw children from daily Collective Worship, but as a Catholic School, it is hoped that our acts of Worship are seen and accepted as an intrinsic part of school life.

- Recording Collective Worship is recorded:
- on a liturgy planner to keep note of themes, leaders, pupil groupings and resources through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs, videos etc.

St Paul's Catholic Primary School  
**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

Policy, Monitoring and Evaluation It is the overall responsibilities of governors, in consultation with the Headteacher, to ensure that the legal requirements are met and opportunities for collective worship are being delivered.

At least once a year the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship.

Associated Policies SRE Policy R E Policy Equal Opportunities Policy

Office use only:

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<b>Author:</b>	B CANNING	<b>Committee responsible for Review:</b>	N/A
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