



ST MARY'S CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Name of Head teacher: Mrs Diane Wright

Name of lead : Corinne Broughton and Mrs Diane Wright

**“Do everything in Love” 1 Corinthians 16:14
Love yourself, love others, love the world**

Through our Christian Faith, rooted in love, we empower all to be the designer and driver of their own learning journey, enabling all to reach their full potential. Ambitious, confident reflective thinkers enable others to flourish, actively and positively contributing to our world.

Introduction

Collective Worship alongside Religious Education in a Church School should enable every child to flourish and to live life in all its fullness (John 10:10). It will help educate for dignity and respect encouraging all to live together well.

“It is the unique heartbeat of the school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversation about God. It should be truly welcoming, inclusive and exemplify the principles of Christian hospitality. The is an approach that seeks to meet the needs of all, wherever they may be on their journey of faith and belief.” Collective Worship statement of Entitlement and Expectation March 2021

Rationale

St Mary’s CEVA Primary School understands worship to be a special act or occasion, the purpose of which is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship involves pupils and staff coming together and participating in a daily gathering. In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act which states that Collective Worship should be “wholly or broadly of a Christian character”, Collective Worship at St Mary’s is based on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. Our worship is inclusive in nature, reflecting individual faith and beliefs of the community we serve. Collective worship should validate, embrace and celebrate all protected characteristics. It aims to be invitational, inspirational and inclusive.

Collective Worship is the heartbeat of our school which enhances our Christian ethos by:

- Unpacking and embedding our vision and values
- Celebrate achievement, celebrations and special times;
- Asking BIG questions and developing spirituality



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- Motivating all to think differently and take action

Aims for Collective Worship

The aims and purpose of Collective Worship are:

- To explore our vision and values and demonstrate love in action
- To enable the pupils and others to consider spiritual, cultural and moral issues;
- To enable the pupils and adults to explore their own beliefs;
- To encourage spiritual development through prayer, reflection and deep questioning
- To encounter the teaching of Jesus and the Bible
- To appreciate Christian worship through diverse opportunities of exploration
- To enable pupils to engage in planning, leading and evaluating worship

Practicalities of Organisation

At St Mary's, we hold a daily act of Collective Worship. Worship is led by a range of skills and trained people, including the Headteacher, staff, Father James, Christian ministers and all are encouraged to participate as a part of the school community.

During collective worship, we seek to invite all to participate in prayer, reflection and songs. Planning, high quality resources and engaging action provide inspirational worship. Reflection is supported through music, video clips, scripture, a cross or candle that acts as a focal point for the attention of the pupils.

Other opportunities are given for prayer and reflection are given at lunchtimes in classrooms and other spaces, where children are encouraged to create their own prayers and reflections for their peers. Opportunities for courageous advocacy are provided to enable love in action.

Worship links with special events, times of year and celebrations where the school community is invited to engage and participate enhancing community cohesion and deepening the school vision and values.

Content

Planned and sequenced worship is broadly based on our vision and values. These are underpinned by world events, Biblical stories and liturgical occasions. We also consider and reflect on the festivals and special times of the Christian calendar and the world faiths reflected within our school community.



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Right of Withdrawal

In keeping with the law, parents / carers may withdraw their children from | Collective Worship provided they give written notification to the academy. The school will ensure that suitable supervision is provided.

Staff always refer to the Head teacher any questions from parents / carers about withdrawals.

The school notes that teachers can exercise their right to withdraw from Collective Worship if they wish to do so but must give notice of their intention in writing to the Head teacher.

Equal Opportunities

In keeping with the school's aims for equal opportunities, Collective Worship endeavours to ensure that all pupils receive equal access to educational opportunities. Care is taken in Collective Worship to avoid the reinforcement of negative or stereotypical images and we aim to celebrate and appreciate cultural diversity through a variety of materials and experiences, in order to reflect the cultural diversities and protective characteristics of our society.

Evaluating, monitoring and review

Governors, staff and pupils regularly monitor and review collective worship. Feedback is provided alongside whole school training to ensure high quality Collective Worship offer our school community inclusive, invitational and inspirational daily worship.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We intend that this policy will be reviewed annually.

The Subject Leader's role includes monitoring and evaluation of this policy in practice. We will maintain a 'self-evaluation' of all aspects of Collective Worship.

Reviewed: 06/05/21



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