



**Christ the King**  
Catholic Primary School



# **Collective Worship Policy**

## **November 2023**

*We Love aspire and serve with Christ our King*



**LOVE ASPIRE SERVE**



Independent

Curious

Communicators

Resilient

Reflective



## **Collective Worship**

Collective Worship at Christ the King Catholic Primary School provides opportunities for pupils and staff to come together to worship God. It is rooted in the example and teachings of Jesus Christ whilst taking into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it.

The school is a Catholic foundation and therefore, whilst respecting diversity of belief and commitment, it reflects and follows the traditions of the Church and has Christ at its heart.

We believe that Christian 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 Come and See programme provides opportunities for celebration, prayer and reflection in implicit and explicit ways. All children are involved and given an opportunity to respond in an act of daily worship. This gives all involved, time to contemplate the mystery of God, the wonder of life and to draw us closer to God. On these occasions children are given the opportunities to participate, to reflect and to respond.

### **Aims for Collective Worship**

- To promote and develop an appreciation of more active participation in prayer, liturgy and worship, relevant to the age and experience of each child.
- To consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To be respectful and reverent towards beliefs of others.
- To reinforce positive attitudes to prayer.
- To develop links with the parish community.
- To develop a common ethos and shared values.
- To enrich religious experience.
- To reinforce home/school/parish links.
- To foster a sense of wonder and joy in creation and to promote an understanding of responsibility for their world.
- To affirm and develop individual dignity.
- To give children the opportunity to build a personal relationship with God.

### **Objectives for Collective Worship**

- To provide a daily act of worship for pupils and staff.
- To provide a prayer focus for each classroom.
- To provide opportunities for reflection and silent prayer.
- To encourage a variety of methods of prayer.
- To gather together to celebrate the special times in the school calendar and liturgical year.
- To develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship to participate fully and wholeheartedly.



### **Organisation for Collective Worship**

The Headteacher and Leadership team establish arrangements for Collective Worship, in consultation with the staff and Governing Body.

The Headteacher will ensure that Collective Worship is provided each day for each child.

It will feature on every class timetable, either in class or whole school gatherings.

The Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or a member of the Leadership team will lead worship for whole school gatherings once a week. Throughout the year other teaching staff are invited to lead whole school worship on a Friday in collaboration with their class.

In class, the Class Teacher will lead Collective Worship and are outstanding role models for children to emulate, using the participation and progression in Collective Worship document Steps 1-4. Where able Children then prepare and lead parts of their class Worship. Each class has Collective Worship Monitors who help prepare the prayer table daily and feedback regularly throughout the year.

### **Resources**

Resourcing Collective Worship is achieved largely through the R.E budget. A list of resources is available in the R.E handbook.

Each class has a set of cloths in the appropriate liturgical colours for the church's year and other resources to provide choices for a focus for worship within the classroom.

In addition, there is a large variety of whole school resources held centrally in the hall.

### **Guidelines for the delivery of Collective Worship Structure**

All forms of collective worship follow the accepted four-fold structure of gather, listen, respond and go forth and particular emphasis may be placed on specific parts as appropriate. All forms of collective worship must contain some form of scripture, whether it be a full passage or just a short sentence for reflection and meditation.

### **Classroom**

Collective Worship should last for roughly one minute for the age of the child. Led by teacher, pupils or a combination.

Atmosphere for prayer assisted by candles, music, artefacts, display of children's work. Include an opportunity for prayer and quiet reflection.

Sometimes worship will be quiet and contemplative and at other times involve music, dance and drama.

### **Whole School Worship**

No more than 15 minutes in duration (Monday and Friday)

Always include opportunity for prayer and scripture; may include hymns.

Encourage parental and parish support.

Enable children to grow in confidence within liturgical setting.

### **Planning, Recording and Evaluating of Collective Worship**



Planned through reference to the church's seasons, significant dates and the Come and See curriculum. With the flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community.

Children at Christ the King are shown the skills and given opportunities to reflect and evaluate their acts of Worship. Children are encouraged to articulate the ways in which these experiences have shaped how they think about themselves and the world and how this has inspired them to action.

### **Recorded**

Through display, prayers and photographs etc.

Through the school termly planning document, noting themes, seasons and saint's days etc.

Through Archdiocese planning keeping note of themes, leaders and pupil groupings. Evidence of this is kept on the school's shared drive system.

### **Evaluated**

By staff and pupils on a regular basis.

Every effort will be made to ensure that frequent discussion of the Collective Worship Policy will take place in order to develop fully our Faith Community. This is a continuous process requiring a close partnership between teachers and pupils and the involvement of others as appropriate.

### **Parent and Guardian Involvement**

Families and parishioners of Christ the King are invited to join us in school or church for Mass every third Monday. Each class also invites families into class or school for a "We Love Learning" session. During this hour, families are able to take part in school activities and this always includes Collective Worship.

### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusion**

At Christ the King Catholic Primary School we plan to provide for all pupils regardless of gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, cultural background, academic ability, Special Educational Need/Disability or vulnerability to achieve their full potential.

### **Policy Links:**

This policy links to:

- RE Policy
- Spirituality Policy
- Behaviour Policy