



Collective Worship Policy

All schools are required to provide a daily act of collective worship for pupils.

Parents have the right to request that their child be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in school.

The school aims to make it possible for all pupils to feel able to take part in daily worship.

If parents wish to withdraw their children from school services- arrangements for these pupils are discussed and agreed with parents.

Aims

This policy for Collective Worship should be read in conjunction with the overall aims for the school and the policy for RE.

In collective worship we aim particularly to:

- to build a school community which, within its Christian ethos is aware of the presence and love of God and responds to him
- give children opportunities for worship together
- develop a positive awareness of being a responsible member of a caring school community and of a wider community
- relate worship to pupil's every day lives and the life and work of the school and the wider community
- celebrate pupil's achievements and the achievements of others
- develop children's spiritual awareness and give opportunity for reflection and experiencing awe and wonder
- promote children's moral development and respect for others
- to be accepting of members of the school who are of other faiths and none
- to affirm the essential unity and equality of all as children of god, regardless of position or achievement

Objectives

To develop an ethos during collective worship that is naturally open to celebration, contemplation and elicits within children the feeling of awe, wonder, mystery, penitence and forgiveness, healing, thanksgiving and inspiration.

To encourage participation of all children in acts of worship by prayer, making music and helping to lead worship in readings, serving and presentation to gain familiarity with the actual practice (simplified) of Christian worship in the Anglican tradition, with scripture, prayers, music, silence and the use of sacraments and signs.

To develop spirituality, a secure sense of belonging with others both in school and the wider community, care and respect for others.

Schedule for Collective Worship.

Collective Worship takes place each day as follows;

Monday – whole school – SLT – Uniceff Rights’ Respecting with Teachings of Jesus

Tuesday – whole school – R.E lead/Vicar – church festivals or Bible passage from previous Sunday, with a spirituality focus.

Wednesday – whole school – SLT – current affairs

Thursday – in class – class teachers – Space Maker’s programme with Question Time!

Friday – whole school – SLT – Merit/celebration assembly.

Means

Collective Worship may vary in purpose and their format. Generally, CW follows the following format (except for Space Maker’s programme).

- Morning Prayer (video and music) with a focus from the prayer
- Greeting
- Focus theme – the lesson
- Time for responding
- Time for reflection
- Bible reading (the bible reading is read where it fits most appropriately within the CW)
- Prayer
- Singing
- A blessing

They can take place in the school hall and church i.e. Whole School or class worship. The themes for collective worship are based on eleven Christian values. See below.

September	Thankfulness
October	Trust
November	Friendship
December	Compassion
January	Perseverance/Courage
February	Service
March	Forgiveness
April	Justice
May	Truthfulness
June	Respect
July	Generosity

Themes for worship may – in-depth analysis.

- be based on the Christian value for the month
- take account of current class or school themes in RE or in other subjects
- take account of the Church calendar
- focus on learning from bible stories
- take account of school, local, national or international events
- be open to the natural aptitude to awe and mystery in life and relate it to religious experience and reflection
- take into account national or international events
- current national and international news
- Environmental issues and taking care of our world

Space Maker’s Programme – developing spirituality

The idea behind this contemplative practice originates in the Ignatian spirituality, namely *The Examen*, first practiced by Ignatius of Loyola, a Spanish 16th century spiritual father (founder of the Jesuits). This practice does not rely on any particular religious beliefs as it is designed to help oneself connect within themselves, to be aware of their emotions and how different situations affect how we feel and treat others. It has a mental health focus, through a Christian lense. It is easy to link particular religious virtues to this, i.e Love your neighbour, to reflect and ask for forgiveness etc.

There are five stages to the Space Maker's process: Stilling, Noticing, Dwelling, Mending, Blessing.

The Space Maker's programme is delivered by teachers in class, using the SpaceMaker's resources.

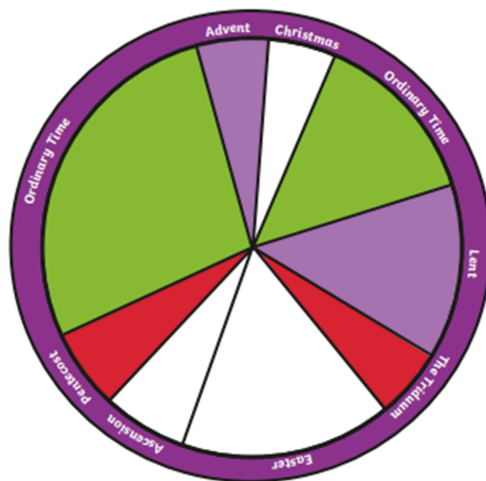
Pupil response in CW

- Pupils response in collective worship is recorded and collated in Collective worship response books. Immediate response and response over time are recorded.

Assemblies are led either by:

- the Vicar of St. Anne's Church
- member of SLT
- a teacher at the school – whole school
- a teacher at the school – in class
- groups of pupils
- invited members of the wider community (with Head or other teacher at the school)

Acts of Worship – following the Liturgical Calendar.



Acts of worship take place every day, following the Liturgical Calendar, schedule already listed above, and the theme for the Collective Worship.

These also include church services several times during the year. Termly family services, Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the Leaving Service for Year 6 in the summer term. These are celebrated either at St. Anne's Church or in the school hall. The Vicar of St Anne's or another member of the clergy agreed by the Vicar leads the Holy Communion is celebrated at the School Mass at Epiphany and Lent.

Year 6 also attend Southwark Cathedral for their leavers' service during their last term at St Anne's School.

The school faith group made up of 6 to 8 pupils from year 1 to Year 6 develop the ideas for services and support the whole school to lead them.

All children except the Nursery regularly take part, unless parents have asked for them to be excluded.

The children play an active part in all school services through the following ways:

- Each class leads collective worship each term
- Selected year 6 pupils set up the hall for worship every day
- Pupils regularly lead the school in prayer during worship
- Pupils make contributions during worship through paired discussion or offering their thoughts and ideas individually.

On some occasions during the year, individual classes will take a major part in presenting work as a focus for the service; on other occasions there may be contributions from more than one class or from all the classes.

Parents, families and friends are welcome to join in all school lead worship.

Foundation Stage Pupils

EYFS pupils engage in collective worship within their own classes once a week. They do not attend whole school daily CW however they are invited to some services during the year that are appropriate for their age group. This may be either the whole of the service or assembly or for part of the time.

Reception attend whole school CW more frequently during the summer term as part of their transition to Year 1.

Rev'd Cecile Schnyder
Vicar of St. Anne's Church

Kelly Ranford
Acting Head Teacher

Reviewed Spring term 2024
Review Summer term 2024