

ST PETER'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Green, Cassington, Witney, Oxon, OX29 4DN
E-mail: office.3651@st-peters.oxon.sch.uk Tel: 01865 880443
Web-Site: www.st-peters.oxon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs Jeanette A. G. Millward MA(Ed)



Registered in England and Wales
Company number 07939655

Collective Worship Policy

St Peter's C of E school promotes Christian values and fosters an environment of spirituality, creativity and respect where everyone is valued and each child can achieve their full potential.

St Peter's C of E primary is part of the Eynsham Partnership Academy

INTRODUCTION

This Policy is carried out within the context and spirit of the school's Mission Statement. It supports and reinforces the aims of St Peter's C of E Primary School valuing all children equally.

The ethos of the school, encompassing all that we stand for, is reflected in and expressed through Collective Worship; it derives from the Christian tradition and seeks to activate our beliefs and values which are set out, clearly, in the School Prospectus.

"Worship is our response to God's greatness and our value in his sight."

AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

"Collective Worship in schools should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes." (DfEE – Circular 1/94)

Therefore Collective Worship at St Peter's: -

- Gives the whole School community the opportunity to enter into experiences which lie at the heart of the Christian faith and help them to learn about Christian worship therefore providing a framework for later understanding.
- Helps gain an understanding of who God may be.
- encourages pupils to consider fundamental questions about the purpose of being and about moral and ethical issues
- Provides an opportunity, for those who wish, to participate in Christian worship.
- Allows the school community to learn, explore and celebrate our specific school values and those it holds to be important.
- Brings children and staff together, enabling them to experience the security of belonging to a community with an identity of its own.
- Makes an important contribution to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Governing Body and especially the Foundation Governors is responsible for ensuring that the Collective Worship Policy is put into practice by the Headteacher and the Collective worship co-ordinator.

The Collective Worship Co-ordinator has responsibility for managing the worship on a day to day basis, ensuring that all legal requirements are complied with. The co-ordinator also keeps in touch with national developments in school worship and acts in an advisory capacity, supporting colleagues.

Pupil Participation is intrinsic to our Collective Worship. The Worship Group is drawn from pupils in year 5 and 6 who lead parts of the Collective Worship such as saying the opening words and lighting the candle, leading the prayers and peace, saying the sending out words. The Worship Group may also take the role of leading the Collective Worship.

Monitoring and evaluating of Collective Worship is an on-going process carried out in line with the school Development Plan / Statutory Inspection of Methodists and Anglican Schools (SIAMs) Action Plan so that effective review can take place by the appointed date. Monitoring of Collective Worship is undertaken regularly and may be carried out by any member of the school community. The Foundation Governors are key to this monitoring.

Timetable of Worship

The structure and themes of the Collective Worship is based on our twelve school values: friendship, hope, dignity, honesty, aspiration, courage, respect, peace, creativity, patience, generosity, compassion. One value is taken as the focus for Collective Worship planning for the half term.

The Christian year is also reflected in the pattern of worship.

The weekly worship falls into the following pattern:

Monday	Teacher led focus on the value of the half term
Tuesday	Clergy led focus on the value
Wednesday	Prayer and praise with pupil participation
Thursday	Head teacher led focus on the value
Friday	Focus on celebration and achievement including nominations by members of the school community of those who have been observed showing the value.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

All pupils have equal opportunity to take part in Collective Worship and to benefit from the experience. The school prospectus informs parents of their right to withdraw pupils from Collective Worship. Such pupils are supervised in another part of the school.

SPECIAL ASSEMBLIES AND VISITORS

Within a Christian context, special assemblies are held for Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the end of the School Year. Parents, Governors and visitors are especially welcome to attend. Occasionally outside speakers, such as representatives from charitable organisations, will lead these assemblies.

Policy adopted:

Review:

Signed

Chair of Governors