

Shine as Lights in the World



St. Michael's Woolmer Green C of E Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Date of review:
Date of next review:
Responsibility:
Classification:

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Full Governing Body
Public

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1. Introduction

St. Michael's Woolmer Green is a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School.

Our school vision is **Shine as Lights in the World** and we want all our children to shine; educationally, physically, spiritually and emotionally. Our school is distinctive in character as a Church of England Primary School and our approach to work in R.E., Collective Worship and across the curriculum emphasises Christian Values and promotes good personal development.

Our hope is for all our children to have the confidence to use their talents and skills, to make responsible decisions as they learn, grow, and contribute positively to the wider world. The children are encouraged to recognise feelings and emotions in themselves and others, taught through the 'Zones of Regulation.' We enhance dignity through our curriculum and policies, which are both underpinned by our school values and 'My Personal Best.' These teach Christian values and core life skills to help the children become the best that they can be, demonstrating resilience, care for others and honesty. We build wisdom in our pupils by encouraging them to be curious learners, constantly questioning and striving to answer those questions, so they develop into lifelong learners. **Our Golden Rule is:** We will treat one another in a fair and equal way and in the way we wish to be treated ourselves.

Collective worship provides an opportunity to both reflect and explore the schools distinctive Christian character and it contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of our pupils.

Collective worship is held daily at St Michael's Woolmer Green and we hold class led services linked to important Christian events, at the village church, St Michael and All Angels, which we invite our wider community to attend. We are an inclusive community and we recognise and accept other major world religions and worldviews and wish to facilitate spiritual growth by enabling our children to learn about other cultures and belief systems. However, parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship if they wish by contacting the Headteacher.

Aims

Collective worship as St Michael's Woolmer Green is planned to:

- regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching to explore and relate to the school's core Christian values
- help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide
- be inclusive, invitational and inspiring, providing opportunities for all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, for example using music, silence, story, prayer, reflection as well as the varied liturgical and other traditions of Anglican worship and festivals
- encourage partnerships with our local church community to support the school effectively in developing its provision for collective worship
- celebrate in a caring atmosphere; at the same time the children learn about and are nurtured in the Christian faith and its values.
- create a sense of school identity, of belonging to a community that shares experiences and values and celebrates achievements and Christian festivals

- contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by showing our children that we are members of a wider community, both local and world-wide, and to encourage a caring concern for others in society and the natural world
- help children think about a wide variety of the spiritual dimension of life
- provide an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local, national and international community and occasions of significance including festivals
- enable pupils as well as adults to engage in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice

The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship at St Michael's Woolmer Green School include opportunities to:

- understand Christianity as a living world faith
- reflect on the school's vision and values
- give pupils a safe space to critically reflect on their own religious, spiritual and/or philosophical convictions
- explore 'big questions' about life
- explore British Values (Democracy, Rule of Law, Respect and Tolerance, Individual Liberty) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child (non-discrimination. devotion to the best interests of the child. the right to life, survival and development).
- share and experience differences
- for the whole community to celebrate
- develop a culture of learning
- become advocates for change, challenging injustice and inequality through social action projects
- build a sense of group identity
- encourage a sense of personal and social responsibility
- encourage dignity and respect for all:
- take part in prayer, stillness, worship and reflection
- learn how to behave in a large social group
- explore feelings and emotions
- learn how to perform in front of an audience
- understand how to respond to a performance
- develop inner awareness

2. Organisation

The organisation of Collective Worship is reviewed termly and features:

Monday	“Welcome to the Week” – led by our Headteacher to introduce the theme or value
Tuesday	Picture News Collective Worship linked to current news around the world, British Values and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child Reception and Key stage 1 worship led by class teachers Key Stage 2 worship led by class teachers
Wednesday	Whole School Collective Worship led by Clergy
Thursday	Whole School Singing Practice led by class teachers
Friday	Whole School Celebration Collective Worship led by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher

3. Planning a collective Worship programme

We recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. Music is played for pupils entering and exiting the hall for Worship. The music that is played is planned by the Music Leader, and the composer of the music is displayed as children enter and/or exit to create a welcoming and inviting atmosphere.

The children learn about our school vision, the value and our Golden Rule through presentation slides and are welcomed with ‘The Lord be with you.’ We attempt to mark out this special time by lighting candles, to reflect the Holy Trinity and by providing opportunities for individual reflection and prayers. We end Collective Worship with ‘Go in peace to love and serve the Lord’ and the children respond, ‘In the name of Christ, Amen.’ (Appendix 1).

The task of organising and managing collective worship at St. Michael’s Woolmer Green School is the responsibility of the RE subject leader. The Subject Leader works with the Headteacher and the Governors to:

- Update the school policy statement on collective worship
- Provide a structure of Collective Worship in the school
- Liaise with the Headteacher regarding the staff collective worship planning rota
- Support staff with requests for resources
- Invite visitors to enhance Collective Worship
- Provide formats for staff to record Collective Worship
- Provide formats for evaluating and reviewing Collective Worship

Teaching staff meet termly led by the subject leader for Religious Education. These meetings are an opportunity to review and evaluate the last terms acts of Collective Worship and to plan themes for the next term. We record our acts of worship in our Collective Worship file. The subject lead liaises with visitors who we invite to enhance our Collective Worship experience. One of the school’s governors has a role monitoring and evaluating Collective Worship and meets regularly with the Headteacher and/or subject lead.

Our monthly value provides a focus for planning and a context for recognising and reflecting on Christian values and important issues but planning also includes a recognition of the church's year and other national events.

Each person leading worship plans worship with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching. We encourage a 4-stage structure of planning including 'gathering', 'engaging' 'responding' and 'sending' (Appendix 2). There are also opportunities for evaluation.


The views of pupils are sought through the Schools Council. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective Worship and Year 6 pupils evaluate our daily Collective Worship (Appendix 3). Pupils also lead prayers during Collective Worship, class assemblies and church services and at the end of each month our Year 6 'Collective Worship Crew' lead their own worship, which is created and developed by the children themselves.

Policy agreed by Board of Governors on (date)


Appendix 1

Collective Worship Welcome, prayers and


Collective Worship




School vision
'Shine as Lights in the World'
Matthew 5.16



Golden Rule
'We will treat one another in a fair and equal way and treat others in the way we wish to be treated'
Matthew 7.12



Social Me
'Let your speech always be gracious.'
Colossians 4:6



The Lord be with you.



And also with you.



Our School Prayer

This is our school
Let peace live here
Let the rooms be full of happiness
Let love be all around
Love of all people
And love of life and living
Let us remember
That as many hands build a school
So many hearts make a school

*Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord.*



In the name of Christ. Amen.

Appendix 2
Collective Worship Plan

Date:

Theme:

Aim:

Gather

Music:

Greeting: Peace be with you. (Response: and, with you).

Light the candles 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Engage:

Resources:

Introduce the resources:

Respond:

Time to reflect:

Prayer:

Send

Blessing: Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord (Response: In the name of Christ Amen).

Turning off the candles:

Music:

Evaluation



Pupil Collective Worship Evaluation

Name / Year Group	Date:
The theme was:	
It was led by:	
Where did the worship take place?	
Who was there?	
How were you greeted to make you feel welcome?	
I think the main message of today's collective worship was:	
What happened in worship which helped you to remember this message?	
Different children took part in our collective worship by:	
Did you pray or reflect during collective worship?	
What did you pray or reflect about?	
How did you know that collective worship had ended?	
How did collective worship help you to think about the way you think and behave?	
The thing I remember best from today's collective worship is:	
I think collective worship would have been even better if:	