

St John & St James Church of England Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Document Information			
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Signature (FGB)		Signature (Head)	<i>P Cuncarr</i>

VISION & VALUES OF ST JOHN AND ST JAMES

Our vision is to create an inclusive community of aspirational learners, children, families and colleagues, working collaboratively and respectfully within a happy, nurturing environment where all flourish and achieve. Pupils are given extensive opportunities through an exciting and engaging curriculum, through which our Christian values are woven.

'I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness'.

John 10 verse 10

Introduction

At St John and St James CE Primary School we are committed to valuing and nurturing each child as an individual, who will achieve their best and develop an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. This is reflected in our vision and the values of respect, community, forgiveness, thankfulness, peace and perseverance.

'I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness.' John 10:10.

As a Church of England Primary School we see our Collective Worship as an integral part of school life, that that both reflects and explores the schools distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of all learners.

Our aim

Worship at St John and St James Primary school will encourage all staff and children to experience and contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the life of the school. It will provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. Collective worship at St John and St James is an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

Providing a daily act of collective worship for the school community enables them to:

- worship and respond to God through distinctly Christian content, using Biblical material and teachings
- enjoy invitational, inspirational and inclusive reflection and prayer
- reflect on Christian values, personal development, multi-faith festivals and curriculum aptitudes
- develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values, support the marginalised through courageous action
- understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide
- consider spiritual and moral issues, locally, nationally and globally
- respond to Christian language and symbolism and experience stillness and quiet
- experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness or quiet reflection
- begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship
- have an opportunity to Celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals

Ensuring Collective Worship, whether in assembly or class time, will:

- be led by senior leaders, staff, children, clergy and visitors
- be led and planned with the same degree of thoroughness as any other aspect of their teaching, with a structure to include 'gathering, engaging, responding and reflecting'
- mark out this special time by the lighting of a candle
- develop the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school and focus on our school Christian values
- include a range of creative opportunities e.g music, silence, symbol, drama

- involve opportunities for pupils to open and close worship and through pupils writing their own prayers
- take place in the school hall, classrooms or the church
- include school staff, expecting all to attend the act of collective worship
- respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship

As a Church of England school the content of our worship is organised to:

- Cover our 6 Christian Values each half term throughout the year
- Promote Fundamental British Values
- Develop personal and social attributes through the Jigsaw resources
- Cover all the major Christian festivals including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost
- Use the school prayer, Lord’s prayer and other prayers written by staff and pupils
- Be presented using a variety of styles and to include music, story, drama, enthusiastic singing, reflection and reverence in prayer time.
- Encourage staff and pupils to perform in front of an audience

School Pattern of Worship		
Monday	Lead by RE Leader	School Christian Values
Tuesday	Lead by Teachers Lead by pupils	Christianity in Action Pupil Worship leaders in Class
Wednesday	Lead by Clergy/ Christian Leaders	Liturgical readings
Thursday	Lead by Music Lead	Singing Assembly
Friday	Lead by SLT	Achievements and Personal Development

Special Services and Visitors

We value our links with the clergy of St John’s Church and Pathways. We hold Christmas, Easter and Graduation Eucharist in church. The vicar leads worship at school each Wednesday.

Inclusion and withdrawal

Collective worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have a legal right to withdraw their children from all or part of worship. Before making the decision to exercise that right parents /carers are encouraged to discuss the issues with the Headteacher.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Children and staff are encouraged to evaluate collective worship and feedback to the Senior Leadership Team.

The school will review this policy annually and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.