

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

MISSION STATEMENT

Growing and Learning with the Guidance of God

With God at the heart of all we do, we aim to provide a loving and caring Catholic community, where everyone is precious.

We nurture each other with kindness to create treasured memories and values that stay with us for life.

'You, Lord, are all I have and you give me all I need; my future is in your hands.'

PRINCIPLES

Aims:

- To provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider during worship moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the preparation and presentation of worship or through listening to, watching and joining in the worship offered.
- To develop a community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and to reinforce positive attitudes to prayer.
- To ensure that the Liturgy of the word is seen as an expected part of celebrations.

GOOD PRACTICE

Content:

- The celebration of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, with whole school and class worships in church.
- The celebration of the events of life. A celebration, which addresses the emotions and feelings children experience: joy, happiness, friendship, enthusiasm, sadness, anger, jealousy, disappointment, fear and loneliness.
- Celebration which reflects thanksgiving, special days and feast days.
- To give an opportunity through worship to reflect silently on the word of God.
- To use music, art, drama in worship
- Children actively contribute to the celebrations taking place in the school community.

Methods:

The preparation of worship is shared between teacher and children. In doing so, the worship involves everyone from the school community in both its preparation and delivery.

- The children's awareness of God is placed at the centre of the worship.
- The children are actively involved.
- The children take a leading role becoming responsible for the organisation and delivery of worship.
- The children are able to discover the role of language, music, mime and drama within a liturgical celebration.
- The children grow in confidence and contribute to adult worship of the parish.

SPECIFIC STRATEGIES

Organisation of collective worship:

- Monday Message whole school worship 10.15 – 10.30
- Tuesday individual class worship the time being at the discretion of the class teacher.
- Wednesday whole school SMSC 10.15-10.30
- Thursday individual class worship at the discretion of the teacher or a whole school hymn practice.
- Friday Proud to be me Assembly within which, whole school worships takes place.
- Class liturgies on Wednesday afternoons in four week cycles as part of the respond part of the Come and See topic.
- Organised Liturgical timetable to celebrate feast days throughout the year.

Resources:

- Central store of books and CD's in the hall.
- Teacher's own personal resources.
- Use of the Come and See programme to provide ideas and initiatives.
- Resources recommended by the co-ordinator
- Wednesday Word leaflet
- Prayer folders/ liturgical year resources in class.

Monitoring:

- Review of any changes in parish based worships are provided by the Priest of the Parish or the Deacon.
- Support of whole school and class celebrations is given by the co-ordinator and the celebrant involved in the worship.
- Monitoring of collective worship by the head and co-ordinator
- Evaluation of the continual development of collective worship is a whole staff responsibility in order to allow inclusion in any decisions necessary.

Right of Withdrawal:

- Recognition will be given to parents requesting the right to withdraw their child from an act of collective worship.
- The school will, as far as possible, make alternative supervision arrangements to facilitate a withdrawal.
- Parents wishing their children withdrawn may be called upon to provide supervision if staff are not available.
- Teaching staff wanting to exercise their right to withdraw from collective worship must make a written request to the governors of the school.



St. Ann's
Catholic Primary School
a Voluntary Academy

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