



Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Primary School

School Mission Statement

To love, live and learn in the light of Christ.

Our School is part of the Church's Mission to pass on the good news of Christ's Gospel through learning, worship and the formation of character in a caring environment, which embodies Christian values and discipline. God has created every child out of love and the human dignity of each will be rightfully valued and respected.

Our School community will embrace a spirit of welcome, fairness and understanding as it strives to recognise God's Grace within each of us and within our whole community.

Collective Worship Policy

The Nature of Collective Worship

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school names and celebrates *God's* presence in our lives. It is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition. Collective worship is at the heart of our daily lives and is embedded within our daily practise.

Collective worship is inclusive to all and takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church;
- Those from other Christian traditions - or none;
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

It provides a reflective and personal experience based on *God's* teachings, to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

The Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God, experiencing awe and wonder in this.
- To encounter God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition and a time for personal prayer
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully as a school family

Principles

All Acts of Worship in this school will:

- Give glory and honour to God;
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship rather than always participating or contributing in a token way;
- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church. In order to do this, celebrations will:
 - be kept small wherever possible or appropriate to help to personalise the experience;
 - be child led, so children have full participation of planning and taking part
 - be simple, including a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

Collective worship in our schools will be:

- properly planned
- adequately resourced
- recorded
- monitored
- evaluated

Morning collective worship:

Monday - whole school liturgy, usually based on Sunday Gospel or Statements to live by

Tuesday - Prayer through hymn Wednesday - usually Class led liturgy/Mass shared with whole school, parents invited

Thursday - collective worship in Classrooms based on Statements to live by/ RE topic/Special times in the year

Friday - Gratitude and celebration whole school - parents/friends invited

Classroom collective worship also takes place before lunch and at the end of the day with a prayer. This can be led by individuals or collectively as a class. These prayers are based upon personal prayers, class sung prayers and CMat collective prayers.

Mass is said in school by Fr Peter once per term. Where Holy Days of Obligation fall on school days, the school usually prepares and attends the Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. Stations of the Cross are led by KS2 pupils with special liturgies throughout Lent, and parents and members of the parish community are invited. Feasts such as Harvest celebrations, are also led by pupils within school through a celebration of prayer, songs and performances. During Advent, KS1 lead the celebrations with a nativity and the whole school take part in a special carol service at the Church, led by the pupils, to which parents are also invited.

Resources

Each class has a prayer focus area for worship, including a prayer table. There are many special resources available to support collective worship and to help prepare the prayer focus areas.

Please see appendix 3 for an audit of resources available to you. Appendix 4 provides expectations as to what should be displayed on a prayer table to support collective worship.

Voluntary Worship and Retreats

(e.g. sharing a lunchtime mass with parishioners during Lent, followed by a Lenten Cafod lunch)

Families are encouraged to worship together through the use of travelling cribs during Advent, and 'Lenten journey' packs during Lent.

Eucharist

Eucharistic celebrations in school will highlight a special occasion and will normally be celebrated with children whose faith development has reached an appropriate stage. The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school worship, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised. When preparing these celebrations reference will be made to the '**Directory for Masses with Children**' as a basis for our practice.

We believe that children are best introduced to prayer, the sacraments and particularly the Eucharist in a step by step approach.

The Leader for Collective Worship

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed according to the School Strategic Plan.

To be reviewed

This policy review has included a review of potential impacts on different groups of people to ensure equality of opportunity and that all functions of the policy are being operated in an anti-discriminatory manner.

Date:

Signed:

Appendix 1

The Role of the Co-ordinator for Collective Worship

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship which may at times form part of the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it.
- Organising themes for Worship
- Supporting staff and pupils in preparing collective worship
- Informing staff of up to date collective worship resources and ideas from training
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing, on occasions, an Act of Collective Worship, including whole school, class led and child led liturgies
- Informing the head teacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship
- Reflective role alongside head and through supporting staff for monitoring collective worship and ensuing up to date

Communication

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Acts of Collective Worship
- Reporting to and consulting with the governors and headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acting as consultant to colleagues
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaison alongside Headteacher, with parish priest
- Liaison with the Diocesan RE Centre

Professional development / Ongoing formation

- Leading and organising in-service training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses and reporting back
- Keeping up to date by personal reading

Resources

- Evaluating existing resources
- Developing the resources available for *Collective Worship* including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- Keeping R.E. folders up to date for all teachers in classes
- Budgeting efficiently

Appendix 2

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups.) We understand that simply holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. We also acknowledge that collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education.

As a rule, acts of worship will take place on the school premises. However, the governing body has the discretion to allow acts of worship to be held elsewhere e.g. church, "on a special occasion".

In this school, as with any Voluntary Aided School, responsibility for arranging Collective Worship rests with the Governing Body after consultation with the Head Teacher.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured.

Appendix 3

Resources for Collective Worship in Catholic Primary School

RESOURCE TYPE	TITLE/MAKE	LOCATION
CLOTHS-	LITURGICAL COLOURS AND OTHERS	MAIN RECEPTION
CANDLE HOLDERS	VARIOUS SIZE/COLOUR/SHAPE	MAIN RECEPTION
TEA LIGHT CANDLES		BOX IN RESOURCE CUPBOARD
BATTERY CANDLE SET- TO BLOW OUT	BOX FULL	THOMAS AQUINAS ROOM
STATUES OF MARY	WOODEN PORCELAIN	MAIN RECEPTION
VARIOUS STATUES/OBJECTS	WOODEN FISH WOODEN FISHING BOAT WOODEN HEART X 2 WOODEN LOVE SIGN X 2	MAIN RECEPTION
FLOWER LIGHTS		MAIN RECEPTION
PRAYER BOX	CARDBOARD BOX	MAIN RECEPTION
NATURAL/SEASONAL RESOURCES	PINE CONES CONKERS DRIED OBJECTS	MAIN RECEPTION
SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR RESOURCES	POPPIES LENTEN CROSSES KNITTED CRIB CHARACTERS	MAIN RECEPTION
CHURCH	SOFT PLAY-OBJECTS/PEOPLE INSIDE	THOMAS AQUINAS ROOM
JESUS DOLL	SOFT PLAY	THOMAS AQUINAS ROOM
POSTERS	CAFOD JESUS STORIES-VARIOUS	LAID IN RESOURCE CUPBOARD
LENTEN PACKS TRAVELLING CRIB PACKS	MADE UP OF STATUE(S), CLOTH, BOOK AND LEAFLET	IN RESOURCE CUPBOARD-ON SHELF

CD'S	<p>MONICA BROWN-</p> <p>PRAISE AND BLESSING</p> <p>BE STILL AND KNOW (MEDITATION)</p> <p>GOD DELIGHTS IN YOU</p> <p>JOHN BURLAND-</p> <p>GOD LOVES ME</p> <p>MOVE, PRAY, CELEBRATE</p> <p>ALIVE IN CHRIST 1 & 2</p> <p>AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT</p> <p>CLASSICAL/HYMN MUSIC-</p> <p>CATHERDRAL CHOIR</p> <p>LINCOLN LIVE</p> <p>OLGC SCHOOL CHOIR</p> <p>CLASSIC COLLECTION</p>	MAIN RECEPTION
BOOKS	<p>RELIGIOUS BOOKS-</p> <p>BIBLE FOR LITTLE CHILDREN</p> <p>THE ART OF PRAYER</p> <p>FRIENDS OF JESUS X 3</p> <p>MORE FRIENDS OF JESUS</p> <p>PRAYING WITH FRIENDS OF JESUS</p> <p>NOAH'S ARK USBORNE</p> <p>BUDDHISM X 2</p> <p>PRAYERS AROUND THE CRIB</p> <p>THE GOSPEL FOR LITTLE CHILDREN</p> <p>ALLKINDS OF BELIEFS</p> <p>ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE</p> <p>THE EASTER STORY</p> <p>STORIES FROM THE LIFE OF JESUS</p> <p>DEALING WITH PROBLEMS</p> <p>SCHOLASTIC READY RESOURCES R.E.</p> <p>FIRST BIBLE</p> <p>LION BIBLE STORY RANGE X 22</p> <p>JESUS DOES MIRACLES</p> <p>GOD'S GREAT HEROES</p> <p>GOD'S GREAT BATTLES</p> <p>LION BOOK STORIES AND PRAYERS</p> <p>FAITH STORIES</p> <p>THE TALLEST CANDLE</p> <p>A VERY SPECIAL SUNDAY</p> <p>LET MY PEOPLE GO</p> <p>I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT JESUS</p> <p>LION FAVOURITE BIBLE STOIRES</p> <p>LIFE & TEACHING OF JESUS</p> <p>WAY OF THE CROSS</p> <p>THE ROSARY</p> <p>FAITH FOR CHILDREN</p> <p>GOOD NEW BIBLES-CLASS SET</p> <p>BIG BOOKS-</p>	<p>BOXES ON SHELF IN RESOURCE CUPBOARD</p> <p>PSHE BASED IN BASKET IN THOMAS AQUINAS ROOM</p>

	<p>THE TALLEST CANDLE A VERY SPECIAL SUNDAY LET MY PEOPLE GO ROW OF LIGHTS</p> <p>FEELING/PSHE BOOKS-</p> <p>FEELING SHY THE NEW GIRL THE BULLIES FEELING HAPPY, FEELING SAFE BRAVE ALONE AT HOME THE BIRTHDAY PARTY GITA GETS LOST STROPPY STAN ELEANOR WON'T SHARE THE LITTLE BULLY INVISIBLE ISABEL TOO SHY FOR SHOW AND TELL GRANDAD'S PRAYERS ON EARTH WHY LOSE YOUR TEMPER? WHY TEASE? WHY FIGHT? WHY BE BOSSY? WHY NOT SHARE? WHY BE UNFRIENDLY?</p>	
OTHER FAITH ARTEFACTS	OTHER FAITH BOXES	RESOURCE CUPBOARD
MASS RESOURCES	MASS BOX	RESOURCE CUPBOARD

Appendix 4

Expectations for prayer focus areas

PRAYER TABLE

This is the expectation of what your prayer table should look like. It should include the following:

- bible- open on a related story either for your topic or statement that week
- candle
- colour cloth related to liturgical colours on church calendar-see liturgical calendar in classroom
- cross/crucifix
- questions based on current topic to encourage deeper thinking
- objects that are related to current topic to show regularly updated and encouraging children to bring these in, choose or make them.
- prayer templates for children to write prayers if they wish, can be any shape.
- anything interactive-sound button, sorting task, comment cards to encourage children
- statement to live by near to table
- prayer tree with current prayers related to topic on/class thoughts/whole class prayer

AN EXAMPLE



Appendix 5

Expectations for display-updated for each topic

DISPLAY

This is the expectation of what your RE display should look like. It should include the following:

- title of RE topic
- "I can" statements
- topic webs (KS2 only)
- level descriptors linked to head and heart
- wonder bubble (not on picture shown)
- keywords for topic
- big question for topic
- some pieces of work from children

AN EXAMPLE



Appendix 6

Support for how collective worship in class should be led

Collective worship follows 4 sections and follow this set order--Gather, Word, Response and Mission. Also known as see, hear, think and do.

The 4 sections of collective worship in class-

Gather (See)-This opens the liturgy and provides children with an opportunity to collect their thoughts and have a picture/object/ thought to focus on. The children gather together to collectively worship.

Word (Hear)- This is the main focus of the liturgy that provides its purpose. Children hear a bible story/phrase and think about the word of God. When planning, begin with this and ensure it is related to your theme. Then build from the word. This is the most important part and what the liturgy should be centred around.

Response (Think)- This is a time for children to respond and reflect on the word they have heard. This can be done in a variety of ways-spoken, written, illustrated, dramatised, etc.

Mission (Do) - This is the end/rounding off part of the liturgy in which the children are given a mission to go forth and do, again related to what they have learnt within the liturgy that day.

Planning- The scaffold sheet provided is to be used by the children but with support of an adult. This sheet is to then be used to support the children when they lead their liturgy and afterwards placed into your collective worship liturgy book for evidence and reference. See Appendix 7

KS1 are provided with the resources from "Let Us Pray" to help scaffold the liturgies for the children, which follow this given format. KS2 are welcome to also use these resources to support but are expected to develop these further more creatively and thoughtfully with the children. On the G: drive, in Teaching Resources for RE- Statement to live by liturgies are also available, but again should only be used as a basis so that the children can plan in their own ideas alongside this.

Liturgy Book- All classes must have their own liturgy book. Inside there should be evidence of planned liturgies sheets and possible photos or children's work samples too. Evaluation sheets of a liturgy can also be included within this. See Appendix 8