

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Collective Worship Policy

Date of Policy: 2018
Review date: 2021

St Luke's is built on a core set of Christian values, where children feel happy and cared for. Here they find, love, joy, hope and peace.

St. Luke's is a Voluntary Aided School serving children from a broadly Christian background. Our Mission Statement states: At St. Luke's School we are:

**FOLLOWING IN GOD'S WAY,
LEARNING DAY BY DAY,
WORKING WITH ONE ANOTHER,
CARING FOR EACH OTHER.**

Collective Worship at St. Luke's lies at the heart of school life and helps to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of the pupils. It also prepares children for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life. The main emphasis is on the tradition of Christian belief and in the teachings and life of Jesus Christ (in line with the 1988 Education Reform Act) however, we conduct our Acts of Worship in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school. Some non-Christian elements will be included when it is appropriate or as a response to local or world issues.

Collective Worship will take place every day for every child.

1. LINKS TO OUR MISSION STATEMENT AND AIMS

Our mission and aims form the basis of all our policies and practice. This policy supports the following aims of our school:

- To ensure that every child is valued as an individual.
- To serve the community by providing an education of the highest quality.
- To endeavour to live out our Christian values in our everyday lives.
- To be tolerant and show understanding and mutual respect at all times.

St Luke's also aims:

- To provide an experience in which every child can contribute and gain from.

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship God in the Anglican Heritage.
- To consider spiritual and moral issues
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs and values.
- To be part of the whole curriculum, and as such will be a learning experience and a time for sharing individual achievements
- To provide children with a rich repertoire of prayer
- Educational- providing the opportunity to:-
 - a) celebrate achievements
 - b) encourage participation and response
 - c) share and experience similarities and differences.
 - d) develop a sense of group/family/community identity.
 - e) learn how to behave in a social gathering
 - f) create a context within which all school members can be joined by members of the wider community.
 - g) contribute to the Religious Education of all children and provide them with the necessary information to make informed choices later in life.
 - h) have a sense of occasion.
 - i) teach children how to worship.

1.2 Collective Worship will aim to complement the ethos and contribute to the visions and aims of the Mission Statement and R.E. teaching throughout the school. It will support the moral as well as the spiritual development of the children and reinforce positive attitudes and gospel values.

2. ORGANISATION OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- 2.1. To provide the children with a variety of approaches to Collective Worship. All teaching staff will lead the Collective Worship. The Reverend in charge and other invited people will also take lead worship.
- 2.2 There is a daily act of Collective Worship, but the groupings are varied, incorporating the whole school, or separate Key stage, or class worship.
- 2.3 Each act of Collective Worship begins with a hymn as children enter to ensure they are ready for worship and a welcome greeting chosen by the children:

'God is good
 All the time
 All the time
 God is good'.

Worship will include some of the following opportunities and experiences-:

Time for reflection
 Time to be still
 Time to be silent

Opportunities for Prayer
 Opportunities for Praise
 Opportunities for reading from the Bible and other sacred books
 Opportunities to see and take part in some of the rituals of the Anglican Church
 Opportunities to hear readings from other sources e.g. inspirational poems and stories
 Opportunities to sing (hymns or other songs)
 Opportunities for Thanksgiving
 Opportunities for Celebration
 Opportunities for Remembering

Opportunities to use the senses
Opportunities to listen to music religious and other, played when entering and leaving the hall

Shared experience of:

Awe and Wonder
Spiritual Uplift
Pride
Sadness and Loss
The expected and the unexpected

- 2.4 Every term there will be an Act of Worship led by the children in Y1-Y6 to which parents are invited. Children in the EYFS (Reception Class) will lead acts of worship from the Spring term onwards.
Parents are also invited to the Special Acts of worship that are organised for Harvest, Christmas, and Easter. In addition to this, parents are invited to attend an Awards and Leaver's Service when the Year Six children are presented with Bibles and some of the children are given awards presented to the school by individuals and local businesses.
Acts of Worship are also organised to celebrate special occasions and events in the life of people involved in school.
- 2.5 Governors, parents and members of St. Luke's Church are welcome to attend any of the Acts of Worship that take place in school as we consider this to reflect the ethos of our school where parents and the community are seen to have an important role in the education of the whole child.
- 2.6 The children make regular visits to Church and take part in services held there, e.g.
- The whole School visits once a term for a service in church led by one of the priests in charge.
 - Year Five and Six pupils visit once or twice a term, in addition to the whole school visit, to join the parishioners for a Communion service.
 - Key Stage Two pupils and staff lead a Carol Service in church.
 - Some pupils and staff join with the congregation for other special services e.g. Education Sunday.
 - Each class participates in a Sunday Praise service at church throughout the year.
- 2.7 The priests in charge also celebrate a Eucharist service in school each term for Years four, five and six. The pupils help lead this service, a class at a time, by planning and leading prayers and/or a reading from the Bible.

3. PRAYERS

All children are taught a core of traditional prayers including:

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

Grace (Thanksgiving for Food)*

Dismissal prayer* (Pupils' own prayers or class prayer)

*These are said in class every day

4. PLANNING FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- 4.1 Collective Worship is seen as an integral, though unique and special, part of each child's education and as such, must be carefully planned, prepared, presented, resourced and evaluated.
The responsibility for Collective Worship lies ultimately with the Governing Body in consultation with the Head teacher.

4.2 A half- term plan of broad themes is produced by the R. E. & Collective Worship leader, in consultation with the priests in charge and the Head teacher. These themes reflect the traditions of the Christian Faith and mark the events of the Christian calendar and major world faith festivals. There is, however flexibility to respond to current local or world events. The themes are adapted by the person delivering the Collective Worship.

4.3 As a school we have chosen a set of Christian Values. These include four core values which are, love, joy, hope and peace. There are also seven other values which have been chosen, one allocated to each class. These are as follows:

Reception - Friendship
Year One - Compassion
Year Two - Forgiveness
Year Three- Service
Year Four - Trust
Year Five - Justice
Year Six - Koinonia

5. RESOURCES

5.1 Resources for delivering Collective Worship are purchased out of the budget allowance set aside for this each year to ensure that they are up to date and relevant.

6. HEALTH AND SAFETY

6.1 Care must be taken during worship when a lit candle is used. It is the responsibility of the adult leading the worship to ensure that the candle is extinguished at the end of worship and that the matches or lighter used to light them are kept safely out of reach of pupils and returned to safe storage after the time of worship.

7. RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

7.1 We expect all children to attend all acts of Collective Worship. However, the right to withdraw a child from Collective Worship, as made explicit in the School Prospectus, may be exercised after discussion with the Head teacher and the Chair of Governors. The school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the worship. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

6. MONITORING AND REVIEW

6.1 This will be undertaken by the ex officio or Diocesan Governor and the Collective Worship leader.

6.2 Pupils are given a voice to comment on worship during designated time at School Council meetings and during Subject Leader interviews. Class and Visitors' comments sheets are used after Special Acts of Worship for any pupils/ visitors who wish to contribute.

6.3 The Collective Worship leader attends worship led by other staff members throughout the school as part of the evaluation process.

6.4 This Policy will be reviewed at least every three years.



