

All Saints' CE Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

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Revised:

Review date:

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All Saints' CE Primary School, Collective Worship Policy

Rational

Collective Worship at All Saints Church of England School takes place daily in accordance with the provisions of the Schools Standards and Framework Act, 1998.

The content of all acts of Collective Worship is in accordance with the Trust Deeds of this Church of England School and with reference to the Diocese of Bradford Collective Worship Guidelines for Church Schools.

Aims

We seek always to reflect in our worship the Christian foundation of the school and its care for all who work there. Children are helped to understand the meaning of Christian worship and we hope that believers will reach the "threshold of worship". Our central aims of Collective Worship are:

- To enable pupils to explore a variety of forms of worship, so that those with a religious commitment may have experience of worship deepened and broadened and so that the uncommitted may begin to feel for themselves something of what it means for others to worship.
- To enable pupils to approach the "threshold" of worship by encouraging in them a worshipful attitude, characterised by feelings such as awe, wonder, being uplifted, elation, deep appreciation, gratitude, respect, reverence and trepidation.
- To enable pupils to use silence for stilling, reflection, contemplation, meditation and, as appropriate, prayer.
- To heighten pupils' awareness of questions relating to the ultimate mysteries of life and of the beliefs held and commitments made by themselves and others in response to such questions.
- To make value and purpose explicit for the pupils as individuals, for the school and for the wider community.
- To develop a sense of community within the school and of being part of, not only a local, but a wider global community.
- To celebrate achievements and special occasions in respect of individuals, the school and the wider community.
- To celebrate difference and diversity.
- To heighten aesthetic awareness and enable pupils to appreciate the use of symbolism and religious language to express feelings and belief.

As a Christian school, Collective Worship should help the children to overcome the narrow horizons of nationalistic and religious barriers which are born of fear and ignorance. As committed Christians ourselves, our children should have no reason to believe that the beliefs of others are any less precious to them than those we hold for ourselves.

Practicalities

The whole school, including members of staff, meet together for Collective Worship, which is daily and usually lasts for at least fifteen minutes. Collective Worship includes whole school, Key Stage, class, teacher-led, pupil-led, celebrations, SEAL and visitors. Visitors play an important part and regularly contribute to acts of worship, e.g All Saints Church lead worship each Monday either through a team of volunteers delivering "Open the book" or other forms of worship, the incumbent of St Margaret's Parish Church leads worship each half term and members of charitable organisations are invited to speak. Christian celebrations are held in All Saints' Church including the Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter and also the Year 6 leaver's service. (Refer to the half term Collective Worship timetable.)

Equal Opportunities

Our school worship is about sharing what is meaningful and significant in our lives. It is about affirming the equality of each individual in God's sight, whatever anyone's gender, belief, ethnicity, physical or mental ability.

Withdrawal

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. Should any parent make such a request, appropriate provision will be made for the supervision of the children following consultation. Parents who have concerns about the content of Collective Worship should contact the Headteacher.



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Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The staff and governors are committed to ensuring that every child in school will derive some benefit from Collective Worship. Every attempt is made, therefore, to ensure that materials used are appropriate to the range of abilities, aptitudes and interests of the pupils.

Evaluation

A record of whole school collective worships is kept in the hall and books in each class for class collective worships. This is to ensure that acts of worship meet the requirements of this policy and inform our learning and planning for further developments. Some collective worship are observed and evaluated by appointed pupils/staff/governors.