



St Augustine's Catholic Primary School Policy on Collective Worship 2017-18

Introduction:

St Augustine's recognises the legal requirements for collective worship and provides collective worship in accordance with the law (DFES Circular 1/94). St Augustine's regards collective worship to be of benefit to the whole community.

In accordance with the Law:

- There will be an act of collective worship everyday in which each pupil can participate.
- Collective worship may take place at any time of the school day.
- Schools may decide on the age or grouping of pupils (whole school, year groups, house groups etc.) and these may vary from day to day.
- It should generally take place on school premises. However, schools with a religious character may have collective worship in Church on any particular day.
- All pupils are required to attend unless their parents have contacted the Headteacher and agreed that they want their child withdrawn.
- Teachers may withdraw from Collective worship.
- Collective worship will be "wholly or mainly of a broad Christian Character, reflecting the broad traditions of the Christian belief". (DFES Circular 1/94 Pg21 Para 61)
- Pupils who do not come from Christian families should be able to join in the daily act of collective worship, even though this would in the main reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief. (DFES Circular 1/94 Pg21 Para 65)
- The content should always have regard for the family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of pupils.
- The responsibility for managing the provision of collective worship is with the head teacher after consultation with the governing body.

Purposes and Aims of Collective Worship at St Augustine's:

- To ensure all children attending the school have the opportunity to worship as a collective body with staff and as individuals.
- To celebrate God's word through prayer and a caring attitude towards one another based on the Gospel Values of faith, hope, love and forgiveness.
- To celebrate and affirm the values and ethos of our school: Everyone should feel included, valued, listened to and able to contribute with confidence.
- To develop a sense of belonging to the school and Parish Community.
- To develop an understanding of the different forms of worship and to support the work of the family at home, by helping children learn how to pray and develop as a unique individual in the sight of God with a lasting belief in the Catholic faith in line with our Mission Statement.
- To encourage pupils to become aware of the universal principles of right and wrong, justice, peace and fairness and to be thoughtful, compassionate and effective citizens.

Organisation of Collective Worship.

Management Responsibility

- Head Teacher
- Re-coordinator

Places of Worship: Church, School hall, Classrooms.

Children's Participation: Where appropriate children will be actively encouraged to participate fully in all collective worship.

Monday: *Whole School Assembly*

Content: Gospel message – music and drama as appropriate.

Aim: To show how the Gospel message is relevant in our lives today.

Introduce Value of the Month: Values Education

Global Awareness issues/PSHCE links

Saints/ Famous people

Tuesday: *Infant Assembly*

Content: Come and See RE Programme of Work: Topic Themes

Bible stories including parables/miracles

Liturgical Calendar - celebrations

Values

Global Awareness issues/PSHCE links

Saints/ Famous people

Aims: Developing moral, and social responsibilities of the children.

Thursday: *Junior Assembly*

Content: As above for infants, but adapted to reflect age of the children

Aims: Developing moral, and social responsibilities of the children

Friday: *Celebration Assembly.* Whole school celebration of excellence and success in our school. Prayers of praise and thanks. Music

Pm Hymn practice for Key stage 1 and EYFS as well as Key stage 2.

Class Assemblies

Classes are on rota – One class Assembly per year, arranged with teachers for Fridays.

- Celebrating the successes and achievements of one particular class
- Structured to include both the Academic and Religious Education Curriculum (Word of God, Bible & teachings of Christ, Come and See Programme of Work).
- Parents invited.

Masses

Start of Term, End of Year and Holy Days of Obligation (in term time)

In Church and in line with the Liturgy of the day

Formal Parish Services: joining the Parish Community (International Day Mass, Holy Communion etc.)

Organisation: RECo/Headteacher: Liaises with the Parish Priest organises children and they prepare parts of the Mass: (eg: readings, hymns, Gloria, Alleluia, bidding prayers, Offertory procession),

Liturgical Services

These celebrations follow the Liturgical year and may occur as part of the Come and See RE Programme of Work. Staff prepare these collaboratively. Children form their liturgy through, prayer, music, drama, dance and good works. Parents are invited and, depending on the liturgy, are sometimes asked to help with preparations at home – learning lines, providing costumes etc. The Parish Priest or Deacon are usually present and depending on the service, will usually lead the liturgy.

Key Liturgies:

- Harvest - Autumn
- Christingle – Christmas KS2/Y3
- Nativity – KS1 - Christmas
- Christmas Carol Celebration in Church – KS2
- Way of the Cross – meditation if appropriate (silver cross day)
- Reconciliation Services (Advent & Lent- if in term time)
- Palm Liturgy KS1 - Before Easter
- Solemn Liturgical Dance (The Passion) – KS2
- Hands Liturgy Key Stage 1– Summer term

RE Lessons

These take place in line with the Come and See Programme of Work. Children learn how to pray and Teacher's encourage the children to develop their own spirituality.

The Come and See Programme is supplemented with additional teaching through Bible stories, Values Education, PHSCE lessons and teaching of world issues through organisations such as CAFOD.

An Altar is a focal point of every class.

Class Collective Worship

On days where there is not a whole school collective worship session a collective worship session is led by Class teacher.

Formal Prayers and Daily Prayer

Formal Prayers are learned through the Come and See Scheme of Work. Daily prayers are said at beginning and end of day and Grace before meals. Prayers and responses in Mass are learned and children learn hymns.

Informal Prayer

These are written and said, or read out by the children and help develop a sense of spirituality.

Resources

Extensive resources kept in RE cupboards and are maintained and updated by the RE Coordinator.