



St Peter's Eaton Sq. C of E Primary

Collective worship policy

St Peter's School is a place where every person has the right to be themselves and to be included in a safe and happy environment.

Together, we will realise the potential God has given us

Approved by:	Achievement, community and standards governing committee	Date: 11 Nov 2019
Last reviewed on:	2017	
Next review due by:	September 2022	

The Collective Worship Policy at St Peter's Eaton Square C of E Primary School pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LA through its SACRE.

In line with the 1988 Education Act, daily Collective worship at St Peter's is *wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, and where we may reference other faiths we base all collective worship both in assemblies and in class on those aspects of Christian teaching that are shared with these faiths.*

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on the teachings of Jesus, Bible stories and how these impact upon the lives of the children. Often this will also incorporate references to common concerns, world issues and other interests and how our Christian values link into these. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

As an inclusive Church of England school, we ensure that all children of other faiths and no faiths are included in all acts of worship in some way.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of St Peter's Eaton Square C of E Primary School and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- ✦ Learn and understand stories from the Bible and how these impact on our lives today and underpin our Christian values
- ✦ share common aims and values
- ✦ celebrate achievement and special times
- ✦ explore together the world in which we live
- ✦ develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- ✦ worship God
- ✦ reflect on that which is considered worthy
- ✦ consider spiritual and moral issues
- ✦ explore their own beliefs
- ✦ develop their own spirituality
- ✦ reflect on the direction of their lives
- ✦ reinforce positive attitudes
- ✦ participate and respond
- ✦ reflect on what it means to be human

- † consider the wonders and worries of the world

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, in St Peter's Eaton Square C of E Primary School, Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in classes. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it will address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

The Management of Collective Worship

The Assistant Head (Spiritual Lead) and RE Lead will plan, monitor and evaluate acts of Collective Worship.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall, the classroom or church.

Assemblies as acts of Collective worship include;

- † **Monday** Head teacher's assembly themed on the Christian value for that term
- † **Tuesday** Singing assembly, prayer and reflection
- † **Wednesday** Year group assembly in Church or
Teacher led assembly on a Bible story linked to one of our Christian values
- † **Thursday** Celebration assembly, prayer and reflection
- † **Friday** Eucharist Mass for KS2 and KS1 led by clergy. EYFS are visited separately by the clergy after Mass.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15-30 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Collective acts of worship are incorporated into whole school assemblies, RE and PSHCE lessons and during the day within classroom settings, such as before lunch and at the end of the day.

Leading Collective Worship

Every member of the teaching staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils. Termly planning sheets list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. Together with weekly planning and

recording sheets, these will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship.

Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made.

Withdrawal

Our assemblies will be conducted in a manner as sensitive and inclusive as to ensure that all children feel comfortable to attend the assembly.

Parents may request that their child/children be withdrawn from Collective worship by contacting the head teacher. They are not required to give a reason.