

St. Aidan's Catholic Primary School



*Learning and growing
together; inspired by the
love of Jesus.*

Collective worship policy

What is Worship?

Worship is concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power. Worship is concerned with the honour and glory of God.

What is Collective Worship?

At St. Aidan's collective worship is more than just a legal requirement. As a catholic school we see it as a central to our ethos and it forms a core part of our overall provision for prayer and worship. The worship which takes place at St. Aidan's takes account of:

- ❖ 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 faith backgrounds.

Collective worship is an educational activity to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. Whilst our worship respects diversity of belief and commitment it will be catholic in character, reflecting the liturgical tradition of the church and having Christ at its heart.



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Who is responsible for Collective Worship?

- ❖ Religious Education Co-ordinator in consultation with the headteacher they will take responsibility for drawing up the collective worship policy.
- ❖ Headteacher - will ensure that collective worship is provided for each child every day.
- ❖ Governors - will meet with Religious Education Co-ordinator to be kept informed of the curriculum, events and may be invited to participate in collective worship.
- ❖ Teachers - will plan and enable collective worship to take place each day.
- ❖ Pupils - will have the opportunity to take part in daily collective worship.
- ❖ Parents - may be invited to participate in collective worship.

Collective Worship - Where will it take place?

- ❖ In the classroom
- ❖ In church
- ❖ In the school hall
- ❖ In the open, playground, field



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Content of Collective Worship

At St. Aidan's collective worship will provide a variety of experiences which will

- ❖ Use a balance of quiet reflection, silence, prayer, responses, music, drama or video clips.
- ❖ Ensure the theme or focus, delivery length and resources are appropriate to interest and age range.
- ❖ Set an appropriate atmosphere with a sense of order and occasion.
- ❖ Ensure the participation of all.
- ❖ Provide a focus through use of candles, symbols etc.
- ❖ Be led by staff or pupils.
- ❖ Be offered for a class, key stage or whole school.

Planning and Recording

Collective worship planning is recorded on planning format sheets and will take into account:

- ❖ Church's season, significant dates and the curriculum.
- ❖ It will be flexible and respond to changing situation in the school.

A planning record will be kept by each class teacher who will evaluate collective worship on a termly basis.



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When will Collective Worship take place?

Collective worship will not take place at a specific time each day. It will take place at the most appropriate time of day for each class to ensure that it is a meaningful and prayerful opportunity for all concerned. Worship time will be suited for the age and interest of the children involved.

Themes and content for Collective Worship

A topic/theme will be chosen by the class teacher for that day/week. These may be related to the Here I Am topic and could take place at the reflect and rejoice part of the programme. Themes for worship will also take account of the liturgical season or a feast day. A class topic, or subject may be used as a theme for collective worship for example, growth, health living senses.



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