



ST CHARLES' CATHOLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE
WORSHIP
POLICY

<u>COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY</u>		
AGREED: SEPTEMBER 2016	REVIEWED: SEPTEMBER 2018	NEXT REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 2020

Our Mission at St Charles' Catholic Primary School is to...
LOVE, LEARN, GROW TOGETHER

St Charles' Catholic Primary School
Policy for Collective Worship

The worship which takes place in school is Collective Worship.

At St Charles' Catholic primary School, it is our aim that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share it:

- 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 Christian traditions
- Those from other faith backgrounds

Worship in a Catholic school is more than just a legal requirement. It is central to Catholic education and forms an essential part of our school's overall provision for prayer and worship.

At St Charles' Catholic Primary School, Collective Worship, whilst respecting diversity of belief and commitment, is Catholic in character, reflecting the liturgical traditions of the Church and having Christ at its heart.

Collective Worship provides opportunities for our pupils and staff to come together to worship God. It is our aim that Collective Worship provides opportunities to:

- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- Reflect on personal beliefs
- Respond to and celebrate life
- Enable and encourage a sense of belonging
- Reinforce positive attitudes
- Come to terms with..
- Mark as special..
- Give worth to ...
- Wonder at ...
- Contemplate something of the mystery of God
- Build a firm foundation for liturgy
- Enrich the religious experience of children and staff
- Encourage a common ethos and shared values
- Develop community spirit

At St Charles' Catholic Primary School, every child is given the opportunity to participate in Collective Worship every day. This usually takes place at the beginning or end of the school day; however, in order that it is a meaningful and prayerful opportunity for all, on occasion other times may be more appropriate, and this flexibility is valued.

When planning for Collective Worship, it is our aim to provide a variety of experiences which:

- Use a balance of quiet reflection, silence, prayers, responses, music, songs, drama or dance
- Provide a focus using artefacts, candles, symbols and lighting
- Ensure the theme, focus, delivery, length and resources are appropriate to the interests, age range, backgrounds and abilities of the pupils
- Set an appropriate atmosphere with a sense of order and occasion, including entry and exit
- Respect the freedom of children and staff in the invitation to prayer and worship
- Ensure the possibility of conscious, active participation of all present

During the week, Collective Worship takes place:

- In all classrooms whenever possible, as a shared time of gathering, led by the teacher, by the teacher with the pupils, or by the pupils, in pairs or groups
- At appropriate times, led by the teacher, in the form of morning prayer, prayer before lunch and prayer before going home
- In Key Stage gatherings, led by the headteacher, deputy headteacher or a class teacher
- In Friday afternoon's celebration assembly, led by the headteacher.

Other opportunities to gather and pray in Church are also taken throughout the year, and parents, carers, friends, governors and all from the school and parish communities are invited to attend these and many other celebrations. Similarly, Fr James, Parish Priest, is invited to, and may contribute to, Collective Worship in school at various times throughout the school year.