

# **St Luke's CE Primary School**

## **Collective Worship Policy**

**Reviewed at Curriculum and Community Meeting, Autumn 2017**  
**Agreed by Full Governing Body, November 2017**

**To be reviewed Autumn 2018**

## **St Luke's CE Primary School Collective Worship Policy**

### **1 Aims and purpose**

The aims and purpose of collective worship are to:

- provide planned opportunities for children to worship God
- reflect on Christian values
- foster an understanding and tolerance of other faiths
- enable children to explore their own beliefs
- encourage participation and response
- develop in children a sense of community
- promote a common ethos, with shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes
- teach children to worship in the Anglican tradition
- enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues

### **2 Collective worship**

**2.1** We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly.

**2.2** In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our worship on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, this is conducted in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school.

**2.3** While most acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the school and the wider community. The messages and themes of these assemblies are always related back to Christianity wherever possible.

### **3 Organisation of collective worship**

**3.1** We hold a daily act of collective worship. This forms part of each morning assembly, which can be whole-school assembly, separate infant and junior assemblies, or a class assembly. The worship element of the occasion is clearly defined, usually by the lighting of a candle.

**3.2** We conduct worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that worship time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time, and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We expect them to be quiet and thoughtful, to listen carefully to the teachings, and to participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an

appropriate atmosphere by using music, candles or other objects, to focus the attention of the children.

- 3.3** Worship is normally conducted by the headteacher or other members of staff, with the vicar of St Luke's leading worship on a fortnightly basis. Sometimes it is led by other members of St Luke's Church, other local clergy or representatives of local religious groups.
- 3.4** We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Christian Faith and we observe the festivals and mark the events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes of our worship are related to topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum (notably PHSE) or national events.
- 3.5** Weekly "Superstar" assemblies celebrate the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies by showing their work to the other children, and by raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. These assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements recognised. Children attend the same Superstars assembly as their buddy.
- 3.6** The current organisation of worship in school is thus:

Day	Time	Pupils	Lead
<b>Monday</b>	9.05am – 9.20am 10.20am-10.35am	Y3 -Y6 Y1-Y2 (+ Rec from Nov) Singing Worship	<b>FG</b> <b>CE</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	9.05am – 9.20am 10.20am-10.35am	Y3 -Y6 Y1-Y2 (+ Rec from Nov)	<b>SC</b> / Rev N some weeks <b>SC</b> / Rev N some weeks
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.05am – 9.20am  9.30-9.50am	Y3-Y6 The Assembly Team (alternate weeks)  Y1-Y2 (+ Rec from Nov) The Assembly Team  Alternate weeks worship takes place in class	Assembly Team and class teachers on a rota  Assembly Team and class teachers on a rota  Class teachers/pupils
<b>Thursday</b>	All classes, any time to suit	Classroom worship – year group classes may be combined	Class teachers/pupils
<b>Friday AM</b>	1.20-1.50pm	Singing Worship	<b>FG</b>

St Luke's CE Primary School  
Collective Worship Policy

		Y4-Y6	
<b>Friday PM Superstars Assembly</b>	1.25PM-1.50PM	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A	<b>SC</b>
	2.00PM-2.25PM	RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W	<b>FG</b>

**3.7** Worship also takes place in St Luke's Church. Each service takes place twice, in order to be able to welcome all parents and carers. Classes attend the same service as their buddy class and pupils walk to Church with their buddy. Where a child is involved in the presentation of the service, we ensure that their siblings attend the same service, even if this means not going with their buddy on that occasion.

<b>Celebration</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Led by</b>	<b>Congregation</b>
Harvest	Autumn	Y3 pupils	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A Parents and carers  RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
St Luke's Day	Autumn	Vicar	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A Parents and carers  RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
Christmas	Autumn	Y6 pupils	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A Parents and carers  RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
Ash Wednesday (NB sometimes falls in Feb half term)	Spring	Vicar	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A Parents and carers  RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
Easter	Spring	Y5 pupils	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A Parents and carers  RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
Leavers' Service	Summer	Staff	RF, 1M, 2G,3P, 4G, 5W, 6A

			Parents and carers RC, 10, 2IR, 3DM, 4H, 5H, 6W Parents and carers
Holy Communion	Summer	Vicar	Y6 pupils and staff

#### **4 Right of withdrawal**

- 4.1** We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be withdrawn from religious worship, and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during that part of the assembly. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for their request, but we ask that any such request is made in writing. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act, and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2** Similarly, members of staff may withdraw from participating in or leading worship.
- 4.3** Class teachers keep a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship and this is passed on to their new teacher annually.

#### **5 Monitoring and review**

- 5.1** Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of the Headteacher and a named school governor, Rev Nicol.
- 5.2** This policy will be reviewed annually.

**Sharon Cowey**