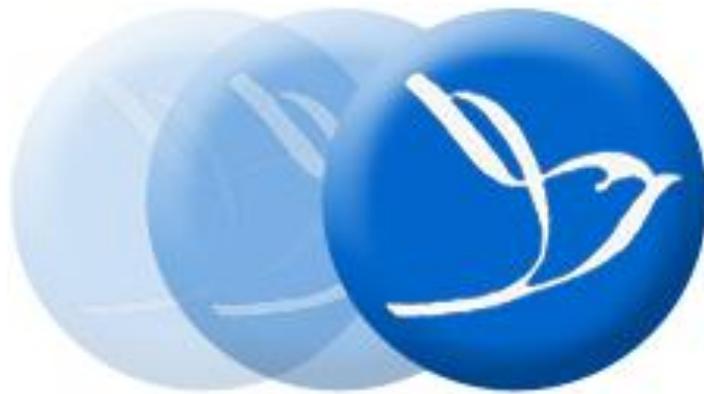


St Faith & St Martin
Church of England
Junior School



Collective Worship
Policy

St Faith & St Martin CE Junior School
Policy for Collective Worship

Introduction

The 1988 Education Reform Act confirmed the 1944 requirement for a daily Act of Collective Worship in schools. Being a Church of England (Cont.) Junior School, it has been agreed by the Governors that, in the absence of specific instructions laid down in the Trust Deed, the daily act of worship shall be consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England.

The purpose of this document is to set out the aims and objectives of Collective Worship at school, and, following a similar format to other Policies, it contains agreed policy on the Nature of Worship, Entitlement, Equal Opportunities, Implementation, Planning, Assessment and Review.

The Nature of Collective Worship

We recognise that Collective Worship is not to be confused with the concept of 'Assembly'.

We believe that an act of Collective Worship should provide the atmosphere necessary to give opportunity for thought and reflection, where a sense of spirituality and morality may prevail and where there may be time for celebration, each participating at his/her own level.(Child and adult alike.)

We believe that Collective Worship has an important role to play in promoting our School Aims, which in turn contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of each child.

Therefore, at St Faith & St Martin CE Junior School we aim

- To provide a stimulating, secure and happy environment
- To work closely in partnership with parents and Governors
- To encourage in our children an awareness of the needs of others, of Christian values, independence and an ability to approach new experiences confidently.

Entitlement and Equality of Opportunity

All pupils are entitled to attend a daily act of Collective Worship. It is our aim to make this appropriate to age, gender, aptitude and background of pupils, endeavouring to be totally inclusive. Care and consideration will be given at all times to include and involve children/adults with special needs and also children/adults with no faith, or a faith other than the Christian faith. It is our wish that our daily Collective Worship should recognise the dignity and integrity of all members of the school community.

We believe that Collective Worship is a special time set aside when the whole school meets together to foster a sense of belonging and community spirit. Although parents are entitled to withdraw their child wholly or partly from Collective Worship (in accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act) it is hoped that few will wish to do so. If they do, alternative arrangements would be made.

Implementation

We believe that children (and adults present) should be actively involved in Worship themselves, sometimes taking part through drama, presenting work or singing etc but also during quiet moments, by listening and thinking.

Collective Worship will be well planned, implemented, assessed and recorded. The team responsible for the Collective Worship is also responsible for preparing Music, other resources and recording an assessment of the children's response. Each member of staff will prepare their own materials for their Collective worship.

A Daily act of Collective Worship usually takes place in the Hall. A display is set up as a focal point. Music is usually played as the children assemble and as they leave.

If the children attend Church for a Service it is recognised that this is not a substitute for the daily act of Collective Worship, but is in addition to it.

Planning and Resources

A Termly Plan is drawn up, following SEAL themes, themes linked to the time of year, such as seasons, celebrations, special events and the R.E. syllabus.

Each week a Celebration Assembly is held, to celebrate the achievement of children across the whole school. When hymns are practised the meanings of words are considered and there is ample opportunity for reflection/joy/celebration etc.

Visitors are welcomed into school to lead an act of Collective Worship e.g. representatives of Charities, Christian groups and secondary school leaders. A representative of St Faith's Church leads an act of Worship every fortnight.

Responsibilities of Staff

It is acknowledged that if a member of Staff does not wish to attend or lead an act of Worship then the Headteacher and other Staff should treat the issue in a sensitive manner. The Headteacher is ultimately responsible for the implementation of the daily Act. At present each member of staff takes a turn at leading an act of Collective Worship, **which may include:** exaltation, praise, reverence, respect, affirmation, identifying with, showing love for, aspiring to, a sharing of common human experiences....JOY!

By: giving thanks, celebrating, sharing, expressing sorrow (happiness, concern...)

Remembering, sharing experiences...

Through: mystery, wonder, awe, forgiveness, fellowship, concern, communion, prayer, reflection, silence, praise...

Myth, story, parable, allegory, history, biography...

Dance, drama, music, mime, movement, action, gesture, chant or song, speech...

individual/collective/corporate response, listening

Assessment:

Collective Worship should feature in the School Development Plan and will be subject to regular review as with all areas of the curriculum.

Regular assessment takes place, to ensure that suitable materials are used and unsuitable resources rejected. All aspects of the Daily Act are to be assessed, such as the response of the children and suitability of hymn etc

Review:

This policy was reviewed in November 2014