

## **A POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP- May 2018**

### **Introduction**

Lead us Lord,  
To Act justly,  
To Love Tenderly  
And To walk humbly,  
Amen.

St. Augustine's Catholic School encourages the integration of a pupil's intellectual, spiritual, moral, emotional, psychological, social and physical development thus assisting progress towards the fullness of life which comes from God.

The school is at the heart of the parish, welcoming, supporting and working in partnership with families enabling their children to grow to their full potential.

We want to create a caring and secure environment in which the children, parents and staff can thrive and come to know and love God and respect each other.

### **The Nature of Collective Worship**

We believe that Christian worship is about giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of The Holy Spirit.

### **Legal Requirements**

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils and that this can take place at any time during the school day and can either be a single act of worship for all children, or separate acts of worship in school groups.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations.

### **The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of the School**

Collective Worship at St. Augustine's School takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in 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-or none.

- Those from other faith backgrounds.

Worship forms an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. Worship at school is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

### **Aims**

We believe that Collective worship provides opportunities for all the children and staff to :

- Contemplate something of the mystery of God.
- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues.
- Explore their own beliefs.
- Respond to and celebrate life.
- Experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit.
- Develop a common ethos and shared values.
- Enrich religious experience.
- Grow in liturgical understanding and development.
- Reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic Tradition.
- Reinforce positive attitudes.
- Participate fully.
- Take time 'to wonder at,' 'to come to terms with' and 'to give worth to.'

### **Principles**

Acts of Worship:

- Give glory and honour to God.
- Are a quality experience, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character.
- Give children positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.

### **The Organisation of Acts of Worship**

Acts of Worship follow this pattern:

Monday- Sing and Praise for Key Stage 2 children  
Infant Liturgy

Tuesday- Whole School Liturgy led by a teacher, the headteacher or Deacon Geoffrey.

Wednesday- Class based worship  
Infants-Sing and Praise

Thursday- Class based worship or a Monthly Mass led by Father Stephen and Deacon Geoffrey to which parents and carers are invited.

Friday- Class based worship

### **The Planning, Content and Delivery of Collective Worship**

Collective worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, the God Matters content, significant dates and the curriculum. Scripture forms the focus of most acts of worship.

Infant Liturgies include

- Occasional liturgies reflecting the introductory rites in the mass and /or the liturgy of the word.
- Short, simple liturgies with ritual and variety.
- Occasional Eucharistic liturgies.
- Class or School Mass

Key Stage 2 Liturgies include

- Short, simple liturgies with ritual and variety.
- Occasional liturgies reflecting parts of the mass i.e. The Introductory Rites in the Mass or Liturgy of the Word/ The Eucharistic Prayer and/or The Communion Rite.
- Class or School Mass

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

At least once a year the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of the children and whether the children are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship.

### **Voluntary Worship**

The opportunity to join in with either the parish, or other schools or worshipping communities is taken when possible. Children from the school read and sing at a Sunday Morning Parish Mass on a monthly basis with school staff supporting them.

### **The Coordination of Collective Worship**

This is shared between the Headteacher and the RE Coordinator. Other members of staff volunteer to have additional responsibility involved in liturgy such as music ministry or sacristan.

### **Policy Monitoring and Review**

This policy is monitored by the RE Coordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the staff and governors every year.