



## Collective Worship Policy

<b>Approved by:</b>	Chair of Governors	
<b>Last Reviewed:</b>	10/10/2024	
<b>Reviewed by::</b>	Sarah Luff Head of School Polly John Deputy Head of School Abi Martin RE LEad	
<b>Next review due:</b>	September 2025	

## **POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP 2024**

***Realising of potential, Respect for others, Responsibility for own actions, Honesty, Co-operation  
Living and learning together***

### **Our Mission Statement**

To provide a Christian environment in which children are encouraged to grow as individuals whilst learning to live in and contribute to society in a positive way.

### **Our Core Values**

- Realising of potential
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for own actions
- Honesty
- Co-operation

### **Vision Statement**

- Living and learning together

### **Ethos**

- Children learn best when they feel secure, respected and valued
- St Michael's aims to provide the best teaching and learning in a happy and stimulating environment which allows children to fully develop and realise their potential
- The school aims to help every child discover and maintain a love of learning

### **Philosophy**

St Michael's C of E School Primary School is a Church of England Academy School. Worship is therefore a very important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a school community. Collective worship is at the heart of daily life in our school and is distinctly Christian. It is attended by all children, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

### **Responsibility for Collective Worship**

The Collective Worship coordinator (Sarah Luff) is the Head of School

### **Collective Worship and the Law**

"The arrangements for the required collective worship may, in respect of each school day, provide for a single act of worship for all pupils or for separate acts of worship for pupils in different age groups or in different school groups"

*The School Standards and Framework Act 1998*

Collective worship in a Church school should be "clearly, distinctly and wholly Christian." Good Christian worship needs also to relate to the pupils and their religious development and experience.

All acts of worship are in accordance with the school's Trust Deed and reflect the Anglican status of the school. In addition to daily school worship, special celebrations take place in Church.

At St Michael's we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. The school hopes that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Head of School followed by written confirmation of withdrawal from Collective Worship. The school has a system of suitable supervision for children withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship. However, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

### **Aims of Collective Worship**

At St Michael’s worship should:

- Reflect the school’s Mission Statement
- Be clearly planned
- Offer opportunities to worship God
- Be inclusive and an occasion where each individual’s integrity is respected
- Offer opportunities for children’s spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Be regularly monitored and evaluated
- Underpin the values and ethos of the school
- Offer opportunities to share worship with parents, School Monitoring Councilors and members of the local community
- Show appreciation for the God given gifts and talents of the school community
- Be inspiring and enjoyable

**Timing of Collective Worship**

Day	Time	Age range	Leader
Monday	Worship	Whole School	Head of School
Tuesday	Class Collective Worship	Whole school	Class Teacher
Wednesday	Collective Singing	Whole school	Ruth Reynolds Music Lead
Thursday	Child Led Worship	Whole School	Children
Friday	CELEBRATION	Key Stage Two Key Stage One	Class Teachers

**Open worship**

A termly opportunity for the school community to share in worship

**Planning**

The Collective Worship coordinator will produce a half-termly collective worship planner in consultation with staff. This will be linked to Christian values, Christian festivals and seasons, religious events, special events in the life of the school, topics being undertaken.

The themes planned enable the children to reflect on matters of importance and offer them the chance to respond through a variety of activities, songs, music-making, hymns, drama, role-play, the visual arts, silent thought, prayer and discussion.

**Collective Worship at St Michael’s**

- Children are expected to enter and leave quietly listening to the music
- Music is played at the start and end of the Worship from a variety of sources
- A hymn or appropriate song relevant to the theme of the week is sung
- Pupil centered, acknowledge diversity
- Time to be still and reflect
- Will include a variety of words, music and images
- Provide opportunities for children to take part in a variety of spiritual opportunities
- Parents and members of the local community are invited to termly open worship

**Monitoring of Collective Worship**

- A collective Worship/Planner will be used to monitor weekly delivery of collective worship
- An evaluation Record of collective worship will be completed at least once a half-term. The aim of this will be to improve the quality of collective worship.
- Children will be involved in reviewing collective worship as part of the annual pupil survey

- The policies committee and Curriculum and Standards committee of the governing body will monitor the delivery and impact of collective worship

### **Suggested format of collective worship**

#### “Gathering”

Children enter the hall silently. Music will be played to establish atmosphere and to support the theme whenever possible. There is also an opportunity for children who play instruments to engage and help lead.

#### “Engaging”

A short introductory sentence and response is a good way to begin worship.

e.g This is they day that the Lord has made *Response: We shall rejoice and be glad in it.* We light this candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World

*Response: Jesus shine upon us*

A worship table will provide the focal point of worship. The worship table might include: candle, cross, flowers, artwork, natural object/s, an object relevant to the worship that stimulates reflection.

The worship table will be dressed in the appropriate liturgical colour.

- Purple – preparation, saying sorry, mourning (used during Advent/Lent)
- Gold/White – celebration, purity (Christmas, Epiphany, Easter Sunday, Ascension Day, Trinity Sunday)
- Red – Holy Spirit, suffering, those who have died (Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pentecost, Remembrance Sunday)
- Green – everyday, the earth and creation (used during ordinary times, Harvest)

Story/input – The story can be told or read or even acted out.

Prayer – The prayer candle is lit. We are going to have a time of prayer now, and if you would like to, please join in with the Amen at the end. There are many ways in which we can pray: prepared, spontaneous, response, traditional prayers (the Lord’s Prayer, the Grace). Children are encouraged to take an active part in preparing or contributing to prayers. A prayer box or prayer tree is provided for children to share concerns or items for prayer. Prayer pebbles are also shared on a Tuesday.

#### Silence/Quietness

Allowing time and space to think and reflect in silence can be very powerful.

#### “Responding”

Provides an opportunity for everyone to reflect and respond in some way

#### “Sending”

The ending of the act of worship so that people have something to think about or do in a purposeful way.

The peace of the Lord be with you

*Response: And also with you*

### **Suggested format for child led worship:**

**Planning an assembly WITH Prayer:**

Welcome everyone to our assembly with a warm greeting

Introduce the theme of today's assembly

Talk, teach or read about the theme

### **Prayer Pebbles**

The prayer pebbles can be found in the main entrance. All members of the school community can place their pebble in the water and say a prayer. The whole school gives thanks for the prayers each Tuesday.

The following prayer is used to give thanks:

*“Loving father, in whose hands we place ourselves day by day: we bring to you all the prayers that these pebbles represent, their needs and their remembrance, committing all things to your love. We pray also for your grace and blessing on those who placed these pebbles in the water in love and concern for others. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ.”*

### **St Michael’s lunchtime prayer**

Thank you for the world so sweet,  
Thank you for the food we eat.  
Thank you for the birds that sing,  
Thank you God for everything.  
Amen

### **St Michael’s lunchtime prayer**

Thank you Lord for this nice day,  
Bless our friends, our work, our play  
Amen

Children also have the opportunity to create their own class prayers for lunchtimes and end of school time.

## **Appendix 1**

Evaluation Record – Collective Worship

*Realising of potential, Respect for others, Responsibility for own actions, Honesty, Co-operation*

NAME	WHOLE SCHOOL/KEY STAGE	DATE
COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FOCUS/THEME		

<i>Aspect/Provision</i>	<i>Yes/Good</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Requires Improvement</i>
<i>Was the environment conducive for Collective Worship? The right atmosphere and a focal point created?</i>			
<i>Were faith objects/artefact or symbols evident?</i>			
<i>Did the content make clear the link to the worship theme?</i>			
<i>Was the worship well planned to take account of age, aptitude and background of pupils? Was it inclusive?</i>			
<i>Were the values of promoted by the school addressed and the ethos of the school enhanced?</i>			
<i>Were their opportunities for worship provided through personal reflection and/or prayer?</i>			
<i>Was the accompanying hymn/music conducive and relevant to worship theme/focus?</i>			
<i>Were there opportunities for spiritual, moral, social or cultural development?</i>			
<i>Pupil involvement and engagement</i>			
<i>Children's comments</i>			