

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly



# **Collective Worship**

Approved by:	Liz Bennett	Date: 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2021
Reviewed on:	June 2023	
Next review due by:	June 2024	

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

#### Introduction

Collective Worship plays an important and central role in the life of ST Paul's Cray C of E Primary School. Our school has a strong distinct Christian character which focuses on a set of core values and all of which impact the daily lives and behaviours of all the school community. This policy strengthens and supports our values and contributes to the culture of our school. The daily Christian act of worship is central to our ethos and is supported by all staff and governors.

## **Our School vision**

Our aim is that through inspiration, challenge and support, our pupils should achieve outstanding outcomes and are able to realise their ambitions. We work hard to provide a positive, caring environment, underpinned by Christian values, in which our pupils become happy, responsible and successful members of society.

Our core values are **Fairness / Love / Forgiveness / Honesty / Generosity / Kindness** and were chosen to sum up the expectations we have of all those working as part of a Christian community and as values which will contribute to our aim to send positive, determined and brave young people on their next stage of education after St Paul's Cray.

We articulate our vision and core values through the words of the Prophet Micah 6:8

"What does the Lord require of me? To act justly, to love kindly, to walk humbly (with your God)."

#### Our Aim

Collective Worship at St Paul's Cray CE Primary School supports the school's vision, by providing opportunities for students and staff:

- To explore a relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Collective Worship provides opportunities for children to develop their spirituality and think about moral values.
- Children are encouraged to listen to others but also to reflect and develop understanding of themselves and of others.
- To foster our pupils' social development by involving them in worship, as in other areas of school life; they are encouraged to share their own experiences, ideas and beliefs as members of the school community.
- To foster our pupils' cultural development by providing opportunities for the children to experience, appreciate and respond to music, literature and art.
- To encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered.
- To reflect on the school Christian values of Fairness, Love, Forgiveness, Honesty, Generosity and Kindness at school, home and in everyday life.

## Implementation

At St Paul's we follow the Diocese of Rochester yearly plan for Collective Worship. These resources are used to guide worship through key weekly themes, which are based on Christian teachings and values, with the Bible at the centre. The scheme follows the school year linked

with the year of the Church with a firm foundation in Scripture. It offers different and creative ways for children to explore their relationship with God.

Every child will have the opportunity of equal access to Collective Worship, unless parents exercise their right of withdrawal. Parents have the right to withdraw their child/children from acts of Collective Worship. However, as Collective Worship is central to our ethos, our Head Teacher would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this with parents.

Each class has a reflection area, where children are able to write prayers and have a time of quiet. In our playground, we have a reflection area that is available to children when they are outside during break and lunch times. Children have the opportunity to write prayers, sit quietly and reflect.

Collective Worship takes place daily at 2:40pm. This is led by SLT, class teachers and the Worship Committee. Collective Worship is delivered from the Vicar of St Mary's termly and we have fortnightly visits from Spinnakar.

Worship takes place in the school hall. For the Christian festivals of Harvest, Christmas and Easter, the school attends a service at St Mary's Church. Individual year groups also participate in joint year group celebrations with other Bromley Church Schools such as: the Year Three Transition celebration each September; Year 5 Bromley Church Schools Festival in June, attended by 300 pupils; and the Rochester Festival for Year 6 pupils.

Gather	Enter the hall and sit while music is playing. The person doing the worship will light the candles once everyone has entered and say, "let us being our worship." We say our liturgy. Micah 6:8
Engage	<ul> <li>The focus for the collective worship will be linked to a Bible verse or a biblical story which will be shared with a clear message.</li> <li>Share Bible text or passage. This can be from a Bible, a clip or through acting out a story.</li> <li>Discuss the Bible text or passage</li> <li>A hymn may be sung here or in the respond section of the worship.</li> </ul>
Respond	<ul> <li>Children and staff are given an opportunity to respond on the message, Bible text or passage. This will be a quiet time for the school community to think about the message. Music can be played and/or an image shared.</li> <li>Reflection can take the form of: <ul> <li>Silence</li> <li>Stillness</li> <li>Prayer</li> <li>Reflection (with calming music)</li> <li>A hymn may be sung here or in the engage part of the worship.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Send	Send the School community out of the worship with:
	<ul> <li>A reminder of the message thought to keep the school community thinking and reflecting about the act of worship.</li> <li>Prayer</li> <li>Blow out the candles</li> <li>Closing liturgy</li> </ul>

## Timetable

Day	Worship	Place	Leader
Mon	Alternate Spinnaker and singing worship. 2:40pm	School Hall	Spinnaker or class teacher
Tues	Collective Worship 2:40pm	School Hall	SLT/MLT/Class Teacher
Wed	Collective Worship 2:40pm	School Hall	SLT/MLT/Class Teacher
Thurs	Collective Worship 2:40pm	School Hall	SLT/MLT/Class Teacher
Fri	Achievement Worship This will focus on our school vision and values. 2:40pm	School Hall	SLT/MLT