



St Augustine's Catholic School

Collective Worship Policy

Policy Status	
Date of policy creation	September 1993
Date of review	September 2016
Date of next review	September 2018
Chair of Governors	

Rationale

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

Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who form part of the worshipping community, the 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

It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain, or simply an opportunity for private prayer.

Worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to our Catholic tradition.

We believe that Collective Worship in our school provides an opportunity for all pupils and staff to:

- Contemplate something of the mystery of God
- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- Participate in private prayer
- 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
- Learn prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- Reinforce positive attitudes
- Participate fully

Governors are committed to and emphasise the relationship between collective worship and the spiritual, moral, cultural and academic development of the members of our school community. As a Catholic school we seek to:

- cultivate the spiritual life of every member of the community through moral and cultural development and through individual prayer and collective worship.
- ensure that liturgical action and personal conduct reflect each other; that prayer and practice are seamless

Planning, Content & Delivery

Collective Worship is planned:

- following a structure that has reference to Scripture, the Church's seasons, the RE curriculum, significant dates and the curriculum.
- involving consultation with appropriate parties and reference to the school's aims and policies
- with flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community
- to develop pupils' skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship.

Acts of Worship at St Augustine's will:

- give glory and honour to God
- be quality activities, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character
- give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for and develop their capacity to take part in the liturgical life of the Church.

In order to do this celebrations will be:

- appropriate to help personalise the experience
- appropriately paced to suit the pupil
- be simple, including a range of experiences in a variety of settings

Form Tutors are responsible for ensuring that the collective act of worship:

- takes place each day with adequate time allocation
- is conducted according to the beliefs, rites and practices of the Roman Catholic Church
- is a quality experience which is relevant and educational
- develops the pupils' knowledge and understanding of the ways in which the Catholic community worships and so celebrates what it believes to be important in life.
- allows pupils an opportunity for reflection and private prayer.
- The form tutor is not required to lead the collective act of worship but is required to ensure that it takes place

Monitoring & Evaluation

The effectiveness of our chaplaincy provision will be regularly monitored and evaluated through:

- regular meetings between the head and the chaplaincy coordinator
- regular meetings of the chaplaincy team which include opportunities for monitoring and review of current practice.
- termly chaplaincy reports to the governors