



HOLY TRINITY C E (A) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Collective Worship Policy

Vision

We aspire to be a happy, confident and caring community where children are motivated to achieve their full potential in a supportive learning environment, underpinned by a strong Christian ethos.

1 John 4: 16: 'God is love and those who live in love live in God, and God lives in them'.

As a Church of England School we promote a Christian ethos where all children and adults are equally respected, valued and we appreciate that every individual is unique.

Introduction and Legal Background

As a Church of England Aided School, the governors are responsible for ensuring that the school provides Christian Worship reflecting the Anglican Trust Deed and the ethos of the school. At Holy Trinity CE Primary an act of worship is held every day. Sometimes the act of worship is held at Holy Trinity Church, eg. Harvest Service, Christingle Service, Easter Service and Leaver's Service. A school Eucharist Service also takes place 1 x term for KS2 children and staff, in Church. It is hoped that all children will attend the act of worship but governors respect the legal right of all parents to withdraw their child from worship.

Aims for Worship

- To enable adults and children to worship together.
- To introduce children to Christian worship in a variety of forms; -
- To develop a knowledge of stories from the Bible and understand how the Christian faith is applicable to the children's every day life and experiences
- To provide appropriate worship for children that brings them to a greater understanding of Jesus as the Son of God;
- To provide an appropriate, calm atmosphere in which children can appreciate and develop an awareness of spiritual aspects of life and worship; -
- To foster a sense of a Christian, caring community where God is worshipped and every child and adult is valued through worship;
- To learn about the Anglican traditions by celebrating special days and festivals in the Christian church calendar;
- To celebrate and develop the school's vision, values and ethos;
- To provide opportunities for prayer and quiet reflection;

Arrangements for Collective Worship at Holy Trinity CE Primary School

We recognise the importance for creating the right atmosphere for worship. Children enter and leave the hall in a quiet way whilst music is played. Children are in a relaxed but ordered and secure environment and are encouraged to actively respond and take part in the worship, through saying the introductory response, the prayers and grace together, as well as sharing their views, asking and answering questions, or leading a worship. The children will also read out prayers written by children during worship from the Prayer Box. Children also reflect on the worship giving their thoughts and opinions. The children face the cross and worship board. The altar is used as a focal point during an act of worship. On the altar is placed a cross, candles, a bible and the children's prayer books and the altar cloth is changed according to the Christian calendar. Four times a week the whole school gathers together for collective worship, including a Friday Celebration Worship. One day a week, the infants and juniors meet separately. The separate worships are led by Father Michael and a leader from the Baptist Church.

The Anglican Tradition

In reflecting the Anglican tradition the following will be explored in worship during the child's time at school: - using the bible as a source of inspiration and learning; - reflecting on Christian symbols and their use in worship (eg. Bread and wine, chalice, cross) - observing the cycle of the Church's year and the holy days; - using a collection of prayers, hymns and psalms to create a framework for worship; - learning traditional responses and prayers which express the essential beliefs of Christians throughout the ages, eg. The Lord's Prayer, the prayer of St Richard of Chichester - providing opportunities to discover the value of reflection within the context of Christian worship; - recognising that the Anglican Church has a strong commitment to ecumenism (eg. inviting members of other local Christian denominations to lead worship).

Key Features of Good Worship

Regular elements of worship are as follows: - a 'call' to worship at the beginning and 'grace' at the end of worship - prayer – this may be said by all the children, led by the person leading the assembly; - singing a hymn or song; - a bible story or a moral story; - music for listening or reflection; - short periods of silence; - acknowledgement of children's birthdays, - an acknowledgement of children's achievements both inside and outside of the school; - sharing resources with others, eg. participation in charity fund-raising events. A combination of these features will occur in every act of worship, which will always include a prayer.

Planning Worship Themes

A Christian Value will be the focus for a half term, using "Values for Life" as a guide and support. The values include forgiveness, joy, hope etc. Staff leading Worships during the half term, will follow the theme and staff will then follow this up in class. A central board in the hall will display Christian Values with the half term's value prominent.

Prayers at other times of the day

Each day children say grace before eating their lunch in their class. At the end of the day teaching staff are asked to ensure a short prayer is said before the children leave for home.

Monitoring Worship

Pupils are asked to reflect about worship using post its. Governors attend acts of worship when they visit the school during the school day.

Established & reviewed TLE Committee: Nov 2018
Review: Autumn 2020