



# Carleton House

## Preparatory School

### **Collective Worship Policy**

**DATE OF POLICY**

**September 2021**

**To be reviewed September 2023**



# **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*"We live, love and learn with Jesus"*

*"Walk with me Oh My Lord"*

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

We believe that Christian worship in a Catholic school names and celebrates God's presence in our lives. It 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 relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

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

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

Collective worship 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.
- It will be an educational activity or experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

### **The Aims of Collective Worship**

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff.

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore their own beliefs
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To reinforce prayers which are part of the catholic tradition

- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To participate fully
- To take time out ‘to wonder at’, ‘to come to terms with’ and ‘to give worth to.’

### Principles

All acts of Worship in this school will:

- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Develop in pupils skills that enable them to prepare, organise and lead worship
- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church. In order to do this, celebrations will:
- Be kept small wherever possible or appropriate to help to personalise the experience;
- Be short and appropriately paced;
- Include a range of experiences offered in a variety of groupings and in a variety of settings.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
FS, KS1 Collective Worship and Star of the Week celebration in hall lead by Head Teacher  KS2 Collective Worship in class	KS2 Collective Worship and award celebration in hall lead by Teaching staff  FS, KS1 Collective Worship in class	Class based collective worship	Whole school Hymn Practice and Collective Worship	Class assembly in hall with parents, led by one class.

### Resources

Each class has a collective worship box containing:

- A photo set
- Articles of Wonder
- A candle
- A CD of songs recorded with the whole school during hymn assembly

Staff and children are encouraged to add to these boxes with personal items that can be used during collective worship time.

### Themes

Each week of the school year there is a theme for Collective Worship across the school. The themes are decided in consultation with staff and children, taking account of current affairs and the schools calendar.

Themes:

Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Beginnings	Journeys	Prayer
Friends	Growing	Ourselves
Rules	Temptation	Difficulties: Barriers and Bridges
Celebrations	Peace	Journeys
Service	Trust and Promises	Responsibilities
Patron Saints	Forgiveness	Special Things
Heroes	Messages and Communication	Saying thank you
Sadness and Loss	Saying Sorry	Freedom
Remembering	Patience	Memories Achievements
Preparation	Loyalty and Courage	The Future
Love	Respect	Saying Goodbye
Gifts and Giving	Hope	
Families		
Generosity		
Christmas		

### Planning

Teachers are required to complete lesson plans for each of their own collective worships. These are stored in their planning files.

### EYFS and Key Stage 1

The expectation at this stage is that the staff will lead collective worship with involvement from the children. This is recorded on planning and can take form of choosing a song, writing a prayer, choosing a coloured cloth or reading.

### Key Stage 2

The expectation at this stage will initially model collective worship with a view to children also planning and delivering themselves, either individually or in groups. Children's involvement or independent work will also be recorded on a planner or in their own format.

All staff will keep their collective worship plans for monitoring purposes.

### Class Prayer

In addition to collective worship, class teachers are encouraged to lead their classes in prayers at the beginning and end of the day, and at lunchtime.

Prayers may include the Our Father and others that the class has written or traditionally used. These prayers may also be seasonal and reflect the interests or concerns of the class. The RE coordinator can provide further support to teachers if needed.

### **The Role of the Co-ordinator for Collective Worship**

The Co-ordinator for Collective Worship is Mr S.Witter

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and family backgrounds of the pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it
- Organising themes for Worship
- Assisting the governors and head teacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to collective worship by liaising with the governor responsible for RE, Mr Tom Manning.
- Monitoring and evaluating the provision each year.