



**ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS C OF E PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

**Collective Worship Policy**

<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>16.1.19</b>
<b>Date for Review*</b> <i>(*subject to any relevant changes in legislation or other appropriate guidelines)</i>	<b>January 2022</b>
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<b>Delegated Responsibility</b>	Ethos Committee

<b>Approved by:</b>	R Meade
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	Chair of Ethos Committee
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## Mission Statement

*Psalm 147:4 God counts the stars and calls them all by name*

The aim of our Church school is to develop the full potential of each child spiritually, socially and academically in a safe, inclusive environment which is grounded within the ethos of the Christian Faith.

This policy is grounded within our school mission statement, and underpins our commitment to providing a safe, inclusive environment for all stakeholders which reflects our Christian values

### 1. Rationale

Our school Collective Worship Policy reflects and reinforces the school's aims and ethos above and will demonstrate the partnership between the conduct and content of school worship and the ethos of the whole school based on our fifteen Christian Values.

At St Michael & All Angels school we consider Collective Worship to be a significant educational activity that both reflects and explores the schools distinctive Christian character and contributes to the academic achievement, personal development and well being of all learners.

Therefore, Collective Worship at St Michael & All Angels is planned to:

- Be inspirational and inclusive. It should engage all learners and they should be able to talk about the impact it makes on their relationships and on life in the school.
- Regularly include Biblical material and Christian teaching which explores and relates to the school's core Christian Values.
- Have a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit enabling all learners to embark on an understanding of the Trinity.
- Help all learners to understand Anglican and other Christian traditions found in the UK and worldwide.
- Challenge all learners of all backgrounds to understand and embark on their own spiritual journey. They should understand the value of Prayer, Reflection Stillness.
- Contribute significantly to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; by providing all learners with 'something more than the obvious, something to wonder at, something to respond to'.
- Be an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.

Collective Worship should be an experience that does not offend the integrity of the non-religious or those of different faith.

The positive educational outcomes of Collective Worship at St Michael's includes opportunities for:

- the whole community to celebrate;
- sharing and experiencing differences;
- developing a culture of learning;
- building a sense of group identity;
- encouraging a sense of personal and social responsibility;
- a break from the busyness of life (for stillness and quiet);
- learning how to behave in a large social group;
- exploring feelings and emotions;
- making visible the school's leadership;
- developing inner awareness;
- learning about oneself and others;
- learning about diversity and inclusivity.

## **2. Legal Requirements**

The law requires the Head Teacher and Governing Body of every school to provide a daily act of Collective Worship which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and foundation.

The school meets this requirement and it is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

### Withdrawal from Collective Worship

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of worship and this is stated in the school prospectus and staff handbook.

It is intended that consultation will take place before formal requests are made to withdraw from acts of worship. In the case of parents or teachers, contact needs to be made with the Head Teacher. Guidance for new parents on non-participation in acts of Collective Worship is given in the school prospectus.

## **3. Planning a Collective Worship Programme**

Specific time is set aside for this activity and we recognise the importance of marking out the act of Collective Worship from other assembly activities. We attempt to mark out this special time by lighting a candle and playing music as the whole school gathers.

In some classes we also make 'space for the spirit' by using whole class 'Diaries of Reflection'. These also offer specific opportunities for reverence or veneration according to children's own beliefs and traditions.

Each person leading worship is expected to plan his or her act of worship. We encourage a 4 stage structure of planning, including 'gathering', 'engaging', 'responding', 'sending'.

The views of pupils about collective worship are sought through the School Council/House Groups. Pupils are encouraged to be involved in the planning, leading and monitoring of Collective Worship.

The schools Foundation Governors have a role monitoring Collective Worship through membership of the Ethos Committee at the school.

It is for the school to decide how best, in its own context, pupils should take part in Collective Worship, eg, in year groups, key stage groups etc. The law makes no requirement about this other than it is daily.

The programme of acts of Collective Worship is co-ordinated by the Head Teacher. The school uses a variety of resources, including Roots & Fruits and the Leicester Diocesan Collective Worship Plans.

#### 4. Our Pattern of Collective Worship

Whole school worship is held each day. These are taken by each teacher and Head Teacher.

Visitors have included Christian Aid, the local Vicar and the Soar Valley Project.

The acts of worship generally follow themes that are aligned to the schools values, but include a recognition of the church's year and make space for other national events.

#### **Whole School Celebration: Act of Worship**

Once a week the school gathers for this worship, in which achievements of pupils at the school are celebrated. Parents may be invited. This worship will normally provide opportunities for spiritual development.

#### **Visitors**

Visitors should understand the educational aims of Collective Worship at the school and the need to avoid any proselytising. Attempts to persuade pupils to adopt a particular religious or non religious belief are not appropriate. In general the Head Teacher is consulted before a visiting speaker is confirmed. Visitors should not speak about raising money for any particular cause(s) without the prior permission of the Head Teacher.

#### **Summary of St Michael & All Angels School Pattern of Worship**

	Lead	What	Where	When
Monday	NB	Whole school	Hall	10.10-10.25
Tuesday	PG	Singing & Worship	Hall	10.10-10.25
Wednesday	RS/JR/Rev. Sister Mary	Whole school	Hall	10.10-10.25
Thursday	SS	Whole School	Hall	10.10-10.25
Friday	All teachers RS in NB's absence	Celebration	Hall	2:30pm