



## **Collective Worship Policy**

**2018-120**

### **General Principle:**

Collective worship is central to the life of St Jude's Church of England Primary Academy. It offers an opportunity for the whole school community to join together and explore the distinctive Christian beliefs that underpin our Anglican foundations and our unique Christian character.

Through Collective Worship and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our mission statement:

**'Children are the RAINBOW of the World'**

**Respect**

**Achieve**

**Inspire**

**Nurture**

**Believe**

**Outstanding**

**Welcoming**

During Collective Worship we celebrate our Christian values, vision and ethos and provide opportunities for all participants including staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors to reflect upon the contribution of these values to their own spiritual development and also the contribution we can make to our community.

The values identified as 'British Values' are also explored during collective worship as we strive to prepare our pupils socially, emotionally, culturally and spiritually for their life in Modern Britain.

### **Christian Values:**

**We identify the following values of Love, integrity, generosity, Honesty, Tolerance. These values are embodied in the life and teachings of Jesus and are rooted in the ethos and curriculum at the school.**

John 8:12

Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

### **Equal Opportunities**

**At St Jude's Academy we wish to be an inclusive community but recognise that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from religious education or collective worship on the grounds of conscience, without giving a reason. Parents wishing to exercise this right are asked to write to the Headteacher who will then invite the parents into school to discuss their concerns, clarify the nature of the RE and worship provided by the school and set out the options open to the parents as set out in education law. However, the right of withdrawal does not extend to other areas of the curriculum when, as may happen on occasion, spontaneous questions on religious matters raised by pupils or there are issues related to religion that arise in subjects. Where a pupil is withdrawn from RE and do not take part in alternative religious education they will be supervised by an appropriate member of staff whilst doing work set by their parents which will seek to further their knowledge and understanding of their parents beliefs and values.**

### **Aims and Objectives**

Worship at St Jude's is inclusive, rooted in the Christian faith, but accessible to all members of the school community. It values and honours every individual's unique contribution, regardless of age, gender, ability, background or beliefs.

We aim to offer a range of experiences that enhance spiritual development and respond to the school community, that are grounded in distinctively Christian teaching.

### **Key Objectives of Collective Worship at St Jude's:**

- To foster a thought-provoking atmosphere that allows for spiritual reflection and response.
- All members of staff will be given an opportunity to lead collective Worship
- All children will also be given an opportunity to take a lead (class assemblies or a lead in their Year Group)
- To Learn about and reflect upon Christian Teaching, Biblical material and Christian festivals, in a way that is related to the pupils' experience and to living together in community.
- To explore and develop understanding of the Trinitarian nature of Christianity, providing strong focus
- To allow learners to explore and enjoy reflection, praise, prayer and the rituals of Christianity
- To allow participants to respond to a wide range of stimuli including praise, silence, songs, art work, technology, guided reflection, drama, music, prayer and their active involvement.
- Ensure that worship is appropriate to the age, aptitude and family backgrounds of the pupils
- To foster a search for meaning and values in life and of faith to live by
- Provide opportunities to understand and celebrate the seasons of the Church year and Christian festivals including local celebrations.
- To understand the value of personal prayer and reflection as part of the individual spiritual journey.
- To choose themes that raise aspirations, inspire a high level of spiritual and moral reflection and challenge learners to take responsibility for their own conduct.
- Collective Worship is distinctively Christian, but we recognise the importance of times of assembly which allow the school community to:
- Recognise and celebrate the beliefs and cultures of others, particularly those represented in the school community.

## **Management of Collective Worship**

The Governing Body, Headteacher, staff and school community have a responsibility to ensure that the daily act of collective worship is consistent with the principles and practices of the Church of England and the trust deeds of the school.

The Headteacher and Senior Leaders have a responsibility for managing collective worship on a day-to-day basis, ensuring all legal requirements are complied with. This involves the planning of a programme for Collective Worship that ensures continuity, variety and a clear focus on Christian beliefs, teaching and festivals and the way that these link with the values and life of the school.

## **SIAMS**

As a Church of England Primary School, St Jude's receives a Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools. This inspection cover 7 main strands:

Strand 1: Vision and Leadership

Strand 2: Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills

Strand 3: Character Development

Strand 4: Community and Living Well Together

Strand 5: Dignity and Respect

Strand 6: The impact of Collective Worship

Strand 7: The effectiveness of religious education

## **Current Practice**

The pattern for Collective Worship each week is as follows:

<b>Day</b>	<b>Grouping</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>School Hall</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>School Hall</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Class/Year group</b>	<b>9.00am KS2 (3pm KS1)</b>	<b>Classroom</b>

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>School Hall led by Rev Roberts</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Whole school</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>School Hall</b>

In addition the school worships in St Jude's Church each term.

*NB No worship programme can be entirely pre-planned. There should always be space for the spontaneous moment or occasion when it is important spiritually to focus on the immediate, so that pupils become aware of how the spiritual dimension transcends all our experience and in turn can be relevant to our interpretation of that experience.*