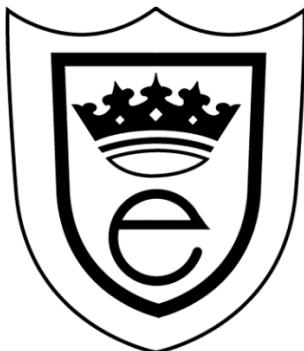


St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

School Mission Statement and Values

Our mission at St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School is to educate our children to reach their full potential in the context of a Catholic community in which each individual shares, or is in sympathy with, the teachings of the Catholic Church and the Christian way of life. Our core values of **equality, excellence, kindness, forgiveness, perseverance, friendship, courage, service and respect** were chosen by our pupils to be the overriding principles to which the whole school aspires, together with our golden rule, "Love one another as I have loved you" *John 13:34*. We seek to make St Elizabeth's School a secure, happy and inclusive environment that is a place:

- of the highest quality teaching and learning;
- of compassion, co-operation and reconciliation;
- where each child is seen and appreciated as a unique individual;
- in which every child's talents are developed and their needs met;
- where mistakes are learning opportunities;
- in which all children are empowered to keep themselves safe and healthy;
- where endeavour and excellence are encouraged and celebrated;
- in which cultural diversity is respected and valued;

We value worshipping and celebrating together, sharing our Christian witness and drawing strength from and serving our local parishes and the wider community.

<i>Governors' Committee Responsible</i>	Curriculum, Pupil Performance and Standards Committee
<i>Status</i>	Statutory
<i>Policy Agreed</i>	Spring 2020
<i>Policy To Be Reviewed</i>	Spring 2023

St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Collective Worship

'The celebration of Catholic liturgies and prayers as an integral part of the learning and teaching should enable the school community to become reflective, experience the presence of God and should develop a mature spiritual life.' *Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005*

At St Elizabeth's, through Collective Worship we acknowledge and celebrate the life-giving presence of the Trinity (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) in our lives. It is how we, as a community of faith, come together to give glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is through acts of shared Worship, prayer and liturgy, that the Catholic identity of our school is shaped and sustained.

At St Elizabeth's, sacramental aspects of the Church's liturgical life, especially the Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation, are intrinsically woven into the fabric of our identity. There is a schedule of liturgical events which includes planned participation in Mass and other Eucharistic liturgies and the opportunity for our pupils to participate in the sacrament of reconciliation during the seasons of Advent and Lent.

Legal requirements

In accordance with the law for all maintained schools, at St Elizabeth's:

- we provide daily Collective Worship for all
- Acts of Collective Worship are not considered to be part of the allocation of curriculum time for Religious Education
- we recognise and respect that parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship
- Foundation governors have a statutory responsibility to preserve and develop the religious character of the school

Responsibility and oversight of Collective Worship

The governors and headteacher are responsible for ensuring that there are daily timetabled opportunities for whole school and class worship.

The governors ensure that:

- there is a named person, the RE leader, who is responsible for organising Collective Worship across the school;
- Collective Worship, in the form of prayer or liturgy, happens for all pupils daily
- all pupils are able to access the prayer and liturgy offered within the school day
- Collective Worship is well resourced, both in regard to content and the continued professional development of those planning and leading. This includes enabling pupils to plan and lead
- there is regular and comprehensive monitoring of Collective Worship which clearly demonstrates the impact on the school's Catholic mission

Principles of Collective Worship

At St Elizabeth's, Acts of Worship endeavour to:

- give praise and honour to God
- give pupils meaningful opportunities to engage in the Sacramental Life of the Church
- give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family context in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.
- be of high quality, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character

- be examples of good practice, which should enable pupils and students to develop skills so that they can prepare, organise and lead Worship.

Aims of Collective Worship

The ultimate aim of Collective Worship at St Elizabeth's is to provide the space and tools for our young people and our staff, within the context of the Catholic faith and traditions:

- to contemplate the mystery of God
- to develop an understanding of Salvation History through meaningful engagement with the Eucharist and the sacrament of Reconciliation
- to reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- to foster and nurture relationships
- to respond to and to celebrate life
- to experience a sense of belonging and to develop community
- to nurture a common ethos and shared set of values
- to enrich religious experience
- to grow in liturgical understanding and development
- to reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- to seek appropriate responses to the love of God
- to take time out ‘to wonder at’, ‘to come to terms with’ and ‘to give worth to.’

Forms of Collective Worship

School Assemblies

The school gathers together at least three times each week for Collective Worship linked to the liturgical season, Sunday’s Gospel, or other religious, PSHE or social justice themes. A variety of staff and groups of children lead assembly.

The staff use a range of resources, including Ten:Ten and Cafod in the preparation and delivery of these assemblies.

The assemblies follow a format which is familiar to the children with music, hymns, prayer and the lighting of a candle and staff attend the majority of assemblies.

The Collective Worship schedule is as follows:

Monday: Deputy Head led assembly

Tuesday: Headteacher led assembly

Wednesday: Class led assembly or class based liturgy

Thursday: Values assembly

Friday: Hymn practice

Values Collective Worship

Each Thursday the whole school community comes together for a time of Collective Worship in which one of our school values is celebrated. During this assembly an example of how the value is or has been ‘lived’ is shared. Celebration of children ‘living’ our school values is acknowledged and celebrated during this assembly.

Class led assemblies

Twice a year each class prepares an assembly for the whole school based on their learning in their RE topic. The children are actively involved in the selection of readings and the writing of prayers. They also use drama, art and music to engage and communicate their message. Parents, carers and governors are invited to attend class assemblies.

Child Led Liturgy

- Each week, different children in each class prepare and lead their class in worship. The children contribute to the planning of their worship. The children choose scripture, write payers and choose hymns. The children are included and involved in the whole process of planning and delivery of the worship.
- At the end of each 'Come and See' topic the children in each class prepare a liturgy as part of the respond element and to share and celebrate their newfound learning. The children follow the format of: gather, Word, response, go forth
- Chaplains regularly lead act of worships to the whole school.
- Chaplains lead a 'Bible club' for Key Stage 1 each week.
- Chaplains support prayer and reflection within 'Prayer club' each week

Mass

Throughout the year we have the joy of celebrating the Sacrament of the Eucharist in school. The priests from our parishes come into school to celebrate Masses and work with the staff in the preparation of these.

Children help to prepare and lead the Mass through Altar Serving, reading and bringing up the gifts during Mass. On Holydays of Obligation we go to one of our parishes for Mass in the parish church.

A special choir 'Schola' which encompasses Year 5 and Year 6 children lead the singing. Parents, carers and governors are invited to join us for Mass in school.

Liturgies

Throughout the year, to mark important events in the Church's liturgical year, we hold special liturgies e.g. Reconciliation Service and Ash Wednesday Liturgy.

Carol Service

Each year, Key Stage Two children lead the school in a Carol Service.

The story of the Nativity is retold through scripture and carols.

Parents, carers, clergy and governors are invited to join us for this special time of worship.

Passion Play

Every Lent, Year 4 perform the Passion Play. The children re-enact the Passion and Resurrection of Christ through drama, scripture and music.

We are joined by parents, carers, governors and clergy for this special occasion in preparation for Easter.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded:

- Through displays, collections of pupil's contributions, prayers, reflections, photographs etc.
- PowerPoint presentation
- In Spiritual Journals
- On class timetables

Monitoring and Evaluation

At least once a year, the school's provision of worship will be evaluated to consider whether it meets the needs of all pupils and whether pupils are making progress in acquiring skills and abilities in organising and leading worship. The views of pupils, parents and staff are gathered in RE and Catholic Life surveys. The RE leader analyses the feedback from the surveys and reports this to the Senior leadership Team, the governors and parents.

Feedback from the surveys informs the RE School Action plan, leading to improvement in practice and provision.

Resources

Each class has their own Collective Worship box which contains: scripture, cloths, candles, artefacts, along with various resources to help the children become more independent in planning Collective Worship.

Chaplains

St Elizabeth's has a team of pupil chaplains, who play a vital role in supporting the Catholic Life of the school, promoting our values and providing opportunities for the pupils to engage in prayer and social justice initiatives.

The chaplains meet regularly with the staff team and formal minutes are kept. Through prayer and hard work, they promote the faith in school to children, staff and the community.

Chaplains contribute to the School's RE Action plan and help decide on which charities to support and the best way the charities can be supported.

Chaplains are fully involved of the selection and induction of new group of chaplains in the Summer term.

As this year is 'Year of The Word' chaplains will be thinking about all the different ways we can help celebrate, share and live scripture. They are also taking the lead in the 'Live Simply' award.

Prayer

School Approach

At St. Elizabeth's, we aim to help children value and respect the power of prayer. We encourage the children to pray by providing a prayer area in each classroom. Each area has a Bible, other books and objects that the children feel make the area a special place. We help the children to both create and experience an atmosphere that enhances prayer. This

involves the children both preparing themselves to pray and experiencing peace and tranquillity.

We also have a collective prayer space in the school hall where all children are encouraged to actively engage in prayer and reflection.

We help the children to understand and express themselves in prayer through liturgical movement. We regularly use movement for the Our Father which the whole school follows, and we have taught different classes other movements appropriate to particular festivals in the year.

We encourage children to say and write spontaneous prayers, using their own words and thoughts.

At St. Elizabeth's we want to be a praying community. We feel it is important to know 'formal' prayers of the church, which we may all pray together and which we all hear and say with the wider parish/family communities outside school.

We also value highly 'formal' prayers which have been written especially for children and which hold meaning for them. With these two aspects in mind we aim to teach particular prayers, increasing in complexity, as the children develop. A plan for the introduction of these prayers throughout the seven years of our school follows.

Our expectation is that we all pray collectively at school in the morning (class or school assembly), before and after lunch, and at the end of the school day. The prayer plan below indicates which prayers are particularly suitable for the different times of the day.

At St. Elizabeth's, however, prayer does not only mean 'formal' prayers. We hope to help each other to listen to God speaking to us, and to respond in our hearts and minds – in silence, while looking at a suitable picture, while listening to music etc. We also encourage prayer writing (by each individual in the school) in our own words – expressing and sharing with others the prayers created inside our own beings.

To become a praying community with the children, we must be praying adults. We acknowledge the importance of praying together as adults – at staff meetings, at staff Masses, at governors' meetings, and at parents' meetings.

Prayers said in each class:

Reception

Sign of the Cross

Morning Offering

Bless Us O God as we sit together

God Our Father, we come to say...

Our Father...

Time

Before prayers

Morning (M)

Before Lunch (B.L.)

End of the day (E.O.D.)

Any time (A.T.)

Year 1 as previous year with

Hail Mary...

A.T.

Glory Be...

A.T.

Simple responses in Mass: Lord in your mercy, And with your spirit, Sign of Peace

Year 2 as previous years with

Eternal Rest

A.T.

Year 3 as previous years with

Act of Contrition	A.T
Bless Us Oh Lord and these thy gifts	B.L
Responses to Mass: Lord, I am not worthy, Lamb of God, Holy, Holy, Holy	
The Rosary	A.T (May and October)

Year 4 as previous years with

I Confess...	Mass
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Year 5 as previous years with

The Gloria	Mass (Not Advent / Lent)
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Year 6 as previous years with

The Angelus	A.T
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In addition to the above, within RE lessons and Collective Worship children are introduced to prayers used in the Sacraments, psalms, and litanies.

Prayers

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed by Thy name.
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God,
pray for us, sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen

Morning Prayer

My God, I offer up to Thee
My heart and soul, Thine own to be
And all I do, or think, or say
And all my work, and all my play

Grace Before Meals

1. Bless Us O God, as we sit together
Bless the food we eat today.
Bless the hands that made the food.
Bless us, O God. Amen.

2. Bless Us, O Lord and these Thy gifts.
Which we are about to receive,
From Thy bounty,
Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

Night Prayer

God Our Father, I come to say,
Thank You for Your love today,
Thank You for my family,
And all the friends You give to me.
Guard me in the dark night,
And in the morning send your light. Amen

Act of Contrition

1. Oh my God,
I thank you for loving me.
I am sorry for all my sins.
For not loving others, and not loving You.
Help me to live like Jesus, and not to sin again. Amen

2. Oh my God,
Because You are so good.
I am very sorry that
I have sinned against You,
And by the help of Your grace,
I will try not to sin again. Amen

Eternal Rest

Eternal rest give unto _____ O
Lord.

And let perpetual light shine upon her
/ him
May she / he rest in peace. Amen

In June

O Sacred Heart of Jesus we implore,
The grace to love Thee daily more and
more

I Confess

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned

in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do,
[All strike their breast]
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-
Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God

Apostles Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things
visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only
Begotten Son of God, born of the Father
before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father;

Through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came
down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and
became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was
buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his kingdom will
have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the
Father and the Son, who with the Father
and the Son is adored and glorified, who
has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic, and
apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection

of the dead and the life of the world to
come.

Amen.

O Sacrament

O Sacrament most holy
O Sacrament divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving,
Be every moment Thine

