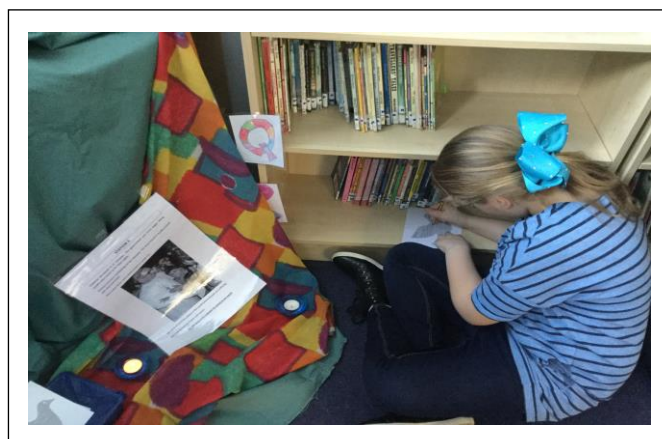


COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

English Martyrs' RC Primary School



Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life.



English Martyrs' RC School
Mission Statement

As pupils at English Martyrs' Catholic School we will follow what Jesus taught us in the Gospels. We know that God made us and that we are all equal - no-one is better than anyone else so we will respect, value and learn to tolerate everyone in our school community. It is our mission to make our school a happy place where children can work hard, learn, have fun and feel safe.

To achieve this:

*We will get to know God by taking part in prayer and worship.

*We will be thankful for the talents and gifts God has given us and work hard to use them to make sure that we learn as much as we can.

*We will make sure that everyone in our school is happy and feels safe by being kind, caring, well behaved and polite.

As a Catholic School we have the Catholic mission at our very core. Everyone in school are expected to actively follow and live out our mission statement:

"Loving Jesus, Loving Learning, Loving Life."

'BE-attitudes' for Behaviour and Conduct

*Our expectations for Behaviour & Conduct strive to enable everyone
'To Be' happy here at English Martyrs'*

Our most important Be-attitude is:-

"Do to others what you would have
them do to you."

Matthew 7:12

This is supported and underpinned by the gospel values outlined in the
Beatitudes

Be Gentle - we don't hurt others

Be Just - we are honest and don't tell lies

Be Sorrowful - we are supportive and comfort each other

Be Merciful - we don't hurt anyone's feelings

Be Humble - we celebrate everyone's gifts and talents

Be Peaceful - we listen to each other

Be Pure - we are kind

Be Courageous - we work hard and don't waste our own
or others time



English Martyrs' Collective Worship Policy

The Nature of Collective Worship

Collective 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 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.'¹

Legal Requirements

It is a legal requirement that there is a daily act of worship offered for all pupils. This can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups. Holding an assembly that includes a prayer, said either by the teacher or everyone present, does not fulfil this requirement. Collective worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two will always be made clear.

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time under regulations and will not be subsumed under any part of the curriculum, including religious education. Responsibility for arranging Collective Worship lies with the Governing Body after consultation with the headteacher.

Parents have a right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. However, given the importance of Collective Worship in a Catholic school, parents and prospective parents will be made aware of the fact that it can never be confined to 'timetabled slots' but may take place in a variety of contexts other than those which are specifically structured, within Come and See RE curriculum.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of English Martyrs' School

Worship 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.

The Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship in English Martyrs' School aims to provide opportunities for all pupils and staff:

- To contemplate the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To explore personal beliefs
- To respond to and to celebrate life
- To experience a sense of belonging and to develop community spirit
- To develop a common ethos and shared values
- To enrich religious experience
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development
- To pray using prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition

¹ Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

- 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 English Martyrs' School will:

- Give glory and honour to God;
- Be a quality activity, fundamental to the life of the school and its Catholic character;
- Enable pupils to develop skills so that they can prepare, organise and lead worship;
- Give pupils positive liturgical experiences, appropriate to their age, aptitude and family backgrounds in order to prepare them for the liturgical life of the Church.² Celebrations will be appropriate to the age and groupings of the children.

Planning, content and celebration

Collective Worship is planned following a structure with reference to the Church's seasons, Come and See, feast days, the curriculum and significant dates e.g. CAFOD Family Fast Day, Holocaust Memorial Day.

Parish and parents are invited to participate in some celebrations.

A variety of prayer styles will be used appropriate to the age of the children and the occasion.

Collective Worship in English Martyrs' RC School takes place as follows:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: All staff attends morning worship as part of our staff briefing

At key liturgical time daily voluntary staff prayer will take place led by Miss Elliott Fr. Shaun, Mrs Lomax and Mr Thew

Monday: Whole School Collective Worship (HT & child led)

Tuesday: Class Collective Worship (child led)

Wednesday: Hymn practice

Thursday: Pastoral assembly (teacher led)

Friday: Whole School Celebration Assembly

Daily prayers are shared in every class.

Every class celebrates a termly act of Collective Worship, either as a Liturgy, a year group Mass or a class Mass, according to the timetable.

Whole School Liturgies take place throughout the year. (E.g. Welcome Mass, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, Advent, etc.)

Leading collective worship

As faith leader of the school, Miss Elliott, Mrs Lomax and Mr Thew will plan and lead collective worship. The class teacher will lead class collective worship. Children are taught to plan and lead worship according to their age.

Recording

Collective Worship is recorded in Collective Worship floor books and planned using Collective Worship liturgy planner.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Collective Worship is monitored as part of the whole school monitoring programme using Collective Worship monitoring form, (Appendix 2).

² Directory for Masses with Children, paragraph 9.

Following monitoring, training needs will be identified and outcomes used to inform SEF 48.

Resources

All RE resources can be found in the RE resource cupboards in the KS2 corridor. Each class has a box of resources with materials, candles, crosses and resources to be used during liturgies to use throughout the year.

The learning environment

'Symbols and icons of the Catholic faith when displayed in school and throughout its premises will help the school community and visitors to experience the uniqueness and sacredness of this learning environment'³

Focal points in each classroom and throughout the school will reflect the liturgical season and will reference Come and See topics. In this way they will be an outward sign of the school's ethos.

Retreats

Staff attend retreats from the diocesan programme, Year 6 also attend a class retreat on Holy Island. Areas for quiet prayer and reflection are set up in the KS2 and KS1 corridors and is used voluntarily by the children.

Other opportunities

Children have the opportunity to go to Mass at certain points in the year. (e.g advent, Easter, end of year Mass) Children may also visit a synagogue or Mosque for world religion week.

Eucharist

Eucharistic celebrations in school will highlight a special occasion and will normally be celebrated with children whose faith development has reached an appropriate stage. The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school worship, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised. When preparing these celebrations reference will be made to the 'Directory for Masses with Children' as a basis for our practice. We believe that children are best introduced to prayer, the sacraments and particularly the Eucharist in a step by step approach.

The coordinator for Collective Worship

The senior leadership team in conjunction with Fr. Shaun, co-ordinate together for collective worship.

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is monitored by the Collective Worship coordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors every two years. The RE link Governor (Fr. Shaun) in particular will play a most important role.

Review Date: September 2017

Next Review Date: September 2019

³ Christ at the Centre Rev Marcus Stock, 2005

Appendix 1

The Role of the Coordinator for Collective Worship

- Formulating a written policy for Collective Worship
- Ensuring that there is a development plan for Collective Worship included in the school development plan
- Ensuring that Collective Worship is appropriate to the age, aptitudes and faith backgrounds of pupils
- Ensuring that Collective Worship takes account of the religious and educational needs of all who share in it and is rooted in the principles of the 'Directory for Masses with Children'
- Organising themes for Worship
- Assisting the governors and headteacher to carry out their legal responsibilities with regard to Collective Worship including withdrawal from collective worship
- Developing staff confidence and expertise e.g. through modelling different prayer styles

Planning, recording, monitoring and evaluating

- Maintaining and developing effective procedures and documentation
- Observing Acts of Collective Worship and providing feedback
- Informing the headteacher of standards and developments in Collective Worship

Communication

- Communicating to members of the school community the significance and content of Collective Worship
- Reporting to and consulting with the governors and headteacher regarding matters of concern and development
- Acting as consultant to colleagues
- Encouraging positive attitudes towards Collective Worship
- Informing newly appointed colleagues of school policy regarding Collective Worship
- Communicating with parents, governors and the parish community
- Liaison with the school chaplain
- Liaison with the Diocesan Department for Education

Professional development/Ongoing formation

- Leading and organising inservice training and ongoing formation for Collective Worship
- Attending appropriate in-service courses, reporting back and leading staff training
- Keeping up to date by personal reading

Resources

- Evaluating existing resources
- Developing the resources available for Collective Worship including visual aids, artefacts, drapes, music, visitors, leaders, new and relevant books, posters etc.
- Budgeting efficiently

Year group:

Monitoring of Collective Worship

Date:



Focus	Comments
Planning (discussed with teacher before or after celebration) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have the children been involved in the planning?• Has the Act of Worship been planned around a theme/feast?	
Structure (If Liturgy) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can the four parts (Gather, Word, Response, Mission) be distinctly identified?• How did children gather?• Was the Word appropriate and treated reverently?• How did children respond to the Word?• Was there a clear Mission, an evident message at the end of the liturgy?	
Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child or adult led?• Depending on the age of the children were they as involved as possible in leading?	
Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Were children fully engaged and participating enthusiastically?• Was it a prayerful experience?	
Creativity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How creative was the Act of Worship?• Did it include different prayer styles/dance/music etc to enhance the experience?	
Prayer Space <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Were children able to create focal point, atmosphere for prayer, appropriate for their age?	
Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Were liturgical resources used appropriately eg correct liturgical colours, artefacts?	
ICT <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Was ICT used to support and enhance the Act of Worship or was it a distraction?	
Agreed areas for development	

A copy of this monitoring sheet has been given to the class teacher
Coordinator ...

Class Teacher ...