

SCHOOL POLICY FOR WORSHIP

Co-ordinator:
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Buddy:
Kay Ferriday

Date Adopted:
Autumn 2018

Review by
Summer
2020

How the Policy developed

This policy developed as a result of the whole staff curriculum rolling program review.

How it relates to the School Development Plan

The Head (Buddy) and Worship co-ordinator will monitor the policy.

Our School Vision

St. Leonard's C.E. Primary School encourages everyone to "Enjoy Success" through a stimulating curriculum in a happy, safe and exciting environment, which is celebrated by all. We will continuously build upon these foundations by focusing on quality, effectiveness and achievement, underpinned by strong Christian values.

Tasks

To introduce policy to staff.

To present policy to the Curriculum Committee.

To continue to increase resources across the school.

To investigate and keep a record of Worship websites.

To create and monitor termly Worship rota.

Action Group

Staff

Co-ordinator
and buddy

Co-ordinator

Co-ordinator
Buddy

Timescale

Summer 2018

Summer 2018

Ongoing

Ongoing

Ongoing

Cost

Within
constraints of
budget

Intentions

- To comply with the expectations of S.I.A.M.S
- To adopt this whole school policy for Worship, ensuring continuity, progression and challenge between classes and key stages.
- Through our Christian values to provide pupils with opportunities to learn about religious beliefs and practices, and to encourage pupils to express responses to these, applying them to human experience.

- To continue to acknowledge the value and importance of Worship throughout the whole school.
- To maintain a Christian ethos and links to the Church of England.

Overview and Objectives

OVERVIEW

- The law requires all schools to provide a daily, collective act of worship that is on most occasions wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian nature. It need not be held at the same time each day. In this school we will meet the requirements of the law in full.
- Where parents request it, their children will be withdrawn from the collective worship and alternative arrangements will be made.

OBJECTIVES

- Each day all learners will have the opportunity to participate in an occasion of worship and reflection of high quality.
- A variety of different opportunities will be used to meet our statutory duty.
- Strong links will be made between spiritual, moral, social and cultural education and religious education.
- Collective worship will contribute to the pupil's experience of awe and wonder.
- A good ethos will be created for worship, enabling children to enjoy music, singing and celebration.
- Worship will be used to help children understand and experience the meaning of great religious festivals and holy days.
- Worship will contribute to community cohesion and will promote learners' spiritual, social and moral education.

Strategies and Outcomes

The relationship between policy and practice is understood.

On most occasions the school will meet as a whole to worship and on other occasions in different groupings.

- On some occasions worship will be held in classrooms at appropriate times during the day and will be led by staff and learners.
- Pupils will learn some well-known prayers and hymns and these will be used in worship.
- Worship will be used for celebration and thanksgiving.
- Pupils will be given opportunities both to participate in worship and to lead worship.
- On some occasions parents will be invited to participate in collective worship with the school.
- Occasionally, outside speakers will be brought in to address the children and, where appropriate, lead acts of worship.
- On special occasions, worship will be linked to religious and other festivals e.g. Christmas, Easter, Harvest and St. George's Day.
- Each Term Clergy will visit school, or we will visit St. Mary's Church, for a Eucharist Service.
- Each classroom will have a 'Prayer Corner'.

OUTCOMES

Pupils will be offered excellent opportunities to experience, enjoy and participate in a variety of different kinds of acts of worship. They will have the opportunity to experience an ethos conducive to spiritual development through prayer and reflection. They will learn to develop positive attitudes to worship and worshipping communities. Through collective worship learners will grow in spirituality and experience awe and wonder.

Equal Access and Outcome

The Equal Opportunities Policy will be adhered to, ensuring an entitlement for all to fully develop their potential, with all pupils having access to the full range of activities and experiences.

Health and Safety

- The Health and Safety Policy will be adhered to.
- School visits will be planned carefully with regard to the requirements for educational visits.

Implementation

The policy will be implemented following consultation with staff and governors. All staff will have an Agreed Copy of this policy document by the end of the Autumn term 2018.

Delivery of the policy will be monitored by the Co-ordinator and buddy.

Resourcing

Resources will be updated as appropriate, and kept centrally.

Spirituality across the Curriculum

This appendix has been completed following whole staff INSET led by the Shropshire Advisor for RE and the school RE co-ordinator.

We can ensure that we contribute directly to children's spiritual development if we offer them the opportunity to:

- Sense or be aware of the mystery of life, of awe and wonder.
- Develop the skills of reflection, silence, and the exploration of inner space.
- Enquire with an open mind.
- Be aware of one's own uniqueness, of the worth of one's self, and of one's identity.
- Empathise with others.
- Be aware of the dark side of life, of suffering, pain, decay and loss.
- Appreciate a sense of community, its demands, values, rituals and celebrations.
- Communicate through speech, art, music, drama etc. responses and feelings with increasing confidence and self-esteem.
- Explore symbols, images and metaphors and their use in helping understanding.

Agreed approaches to a reflective way of teaching:

- Start from children's own experience.
- Value each child's contribution.
- Provide opportunities for children to find things out for themselves.
- Encourage a questioning approach.
- Ensure there is always time for discussion/reflection.
- Encourage and recognise expression of feelings especially through the arts.
- Provide occasions when children can develop their imaginative skills.
- Develop children's awareness of and ability to use their senses, and to concentrate on the present moment.

Appendix 2

Planning for Collective Worship

In Collective Worship planning through our Christian values we take account of the requirements of the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus.

The termly planning rota is the responsibility of the Worship co-ordinator.
Within our Christian values we focus on:

- The Natural World
- Relationships
- Celebration
- World religions
- Self - awareness

Our themes for Worship also take account of work being covered in curricular areas and of significant events in the calendar.

There are opportunities for children to engage in worship in both church and school at times of major festivals, such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest. There is also an Easter service held in school and a Harvest /One World Week celebration held in school in the autumn term.

There are opportunities to witness/take part in Holy Communion during our school Eucharist. These are led by Rev Simon Cawdell, one of our Governors. He is supported by Year 6 pupils.

A Worship assembly takes place every school day.

- Monday – led by Headteacher.
- Tuesday – led by local Clergy
- Wednesday. – led by a senior member of staff and music co-ordinator for singing practice.
- Thursday – Open The Book led by volunteers from our parish, or classroom worship led by class teachers. From time to time this assembly may be taken by other visiting guest speakers e.g. speaking on behalf of charities or conservation.
- Friday – A focus Assembly on our Christian values led by teaching staff from each class, pupils from each class and our School Council. Parents are invited to our pupil led class Assemblies. Friday Assembly for Worship is also a sharing of children's achievement Assembly.

The usual format for Worship is to commence with an interactive presentation, discussion, story or play based on the weekly theme, followed by a period of reflection and/or prayer, and a hymn.

The opinions and views of pupils with regard to content, delivery and meaningfulness of Worship assemblies are actively sought and children may participate on any day.