

St Anne's RC Primary and Nursery School
Prayer Life and Worship Policy

*"To help every person here to achieve his or her best in work and in play.
To celebrate whatever is good and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus by supporting and
forgiving each other for the honour and glory of God".*

Rationale

To assist fully in the fulfilment of the school's Mission Statement.

To provide an environment which contributes to developing the prayer life of all members of our faith community.

To ensure that each child accesses their statutory entitlement to daily worship and prayer,

To provide opportunity for every person at St Anne's to feel skilled and free to express themselves through prayer.

Aims

We aim to:

- celebrate our unique, sacred identity, using a range of religious artefacts and displays.
- provide opportunities to nurture each child's relationship with God, building on the foundations laid by the family and parish.
- encourage children in the desire to engage in personal prayer.
- encourage parents, governors and members of the parish to share in the prayer life of St Anne's.
- reflect on spiritual, moral, emotional and cultural issues.
- respond to and celebrate life, including current issues and challenges.
- provide opportunities for children, staff, parents and parishioners to deepen their own understanding and reflection of prayer, by partaking in a variety of liturgical experiences.
- develop skills that will enable children to prepare, organise and lead worship.
- teach children a range of traditional prayers and scope to create their own personal prayers, enabling them to celebrate and respond to a variety of experiences. (Prayer List attached).

Planning and Delivery of Prayer and Worship

As part of this policy all teachers will:

- plan during weekly planning sessions their class collective worship for each Thursday in accordance with the liturgical year, Statements to Live By and The Way, The Truth and The Life

- ensure their children attend the whole school daily acts of worship on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday each week.
- ensure that any shared activity/research is valued and completed as part of their reflections during the week.
- provide every child with the opportunity to plan and prepare for worship in class, during assemblies, Masses and liturgies.
- ensure that the daily traditional prayers and prayer times are observed, also allowing children opportunity to contribute with their own personal intentions and prayers.
- ensure that all children partake in weekly hymn practice
- Keep a record of Collective Worship for children to reflect on.
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Mass

- Masses will take place in line with the Liturgical Year. These can be in Church, school or in class.
- Children will plan and prepare for Mass in line with the school rota, including writing and reflecting on Prayers of Intercession, offertory gifts, Readings, best people for the various roles etc.
- Prayers of Intercession to begin: “ We pray that” followed by 5 main prayers relating to :
 - The World
 - Our Pope, Bishop and Parish Priest
 - The School
 - The Parish
 - The Sick
- These prayers should end with The Hail Mary.

We use the Directory for Masses with Children as a basis for our practice and work closely with colleagues and Father Clarke.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This will take place in the following ways:

- An annual review of the Prayer Life and Worship Policy
- An annual assessment of resources needed for prayer and worship
- Monitoring of displays, prayer tables and classroom areas
- Formal and informal lesson observations will take place and planning will be monitored at least half termly.

Reporting

Parents will be informed of their child’s progress through:

- Parent Teacher Meetings

- Participation in and observation of Collective Worship.
- Classroom Collective Worship reflection books
- Photographic evidence.

Governors, parents, parishioners, Community and external agencies will be invited to share and participation the content and achievement of prayer and worship through:

- Headteacher's Report
- Participation and observation of prayer and worship
- Displays of work and worship
- Classroom Collective Worship books
- End of year reports
- Individual Records
- Tracking of progress
- Big Questions
- Gift Chaplaincy Team

Next Review November 2017