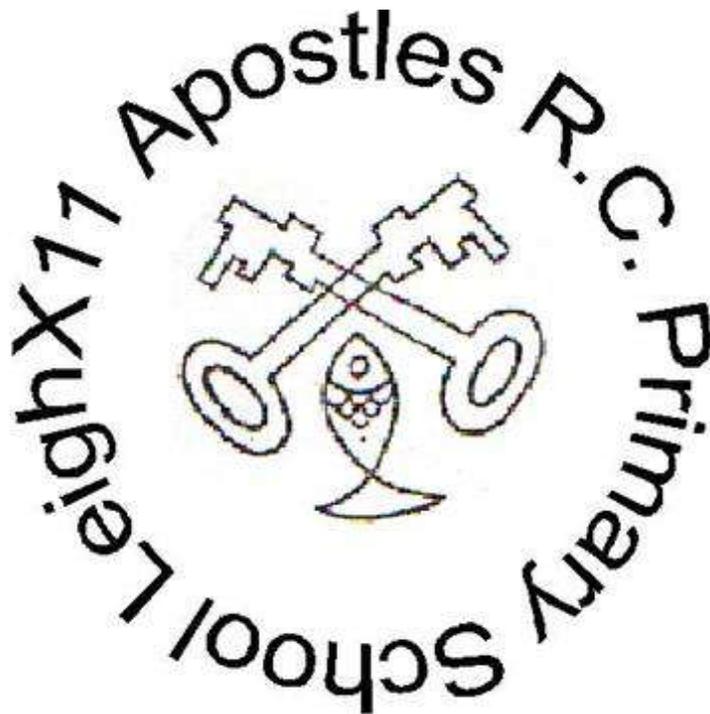


XII Apostles RCPS Collective Worship Policy

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Through learning and loving we will follow Jesus.



Collective Worship Policy

*“Worship is concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power”,
Circular 1/94*

At XII Apostles RCPS we believe that Collective Worship provides opportunities for pupils, parents and staff to come together to worship God and that is an experience to which all can contribute and from which all can gain. It is central to the education of children in a Catholic school and it forms an essential part of our school’s provision for prayer and worship. During Collective Worship we respect the diversity of belief and commitment but Collective Worship will be Catholic in character. It will reflect the liturgical tradition of the Church and have Christ at its heart.

This policy outlines the purpose, nature and management of Collective Worship at XII Apostles RCPS. The school’s mission statement clearly reflects the importance of the act of Collective Worship.

Mission Statement

Through Loving and Learning we will follow Jesus

1. To place Christ at the centre of everything we do
2. To recognise that each child is unique and to ensure that each child is educated to fulfil their human potential
3. To develop an understanding of Community; being able to recognise, respect and celebrate the diversity of all within it.

The children will have access to, and further understand the school mission statement through the acts of Collective Worship.

Acts of Collective Worship will take into account the religious and educational needs of all who share it:

- . Those who form part of the worshipping community in Church.
- . Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of the Church.
- . Those from other Christian traditions
- . Those from other faith backgrounds.

Aims

This school aims to make prayer, worship and liturgy real educational experiences, and to contribute successfully to the development of faith of each individual in the school community.

Objectives

To achieve this aim the school will:

- Hold regular whole school assemblies each week within which are Acts Of Worship.
- Celebrate the Eucharist regularly with the children, staff and whole school community, both in Church and in school.
- Foster the growth and development of the Catholic Faith by ensuring that the 'Come and See' Scheme is taught in all classes.
- Ensure that in each day there is time for prayer and Worship.
- Foster the preparation for the Sacraments of The
- Eucharist, Confirmation and Reconciliation through the deliverance of the, 'With you always' scheme - liaising with Home and Parish.
- Develop an awareness of the Liturgical Year.
- Foster the devotional life of the Church.
- . Encourage parents to celebrate in Collective Worship alongside the children

Planning

On a daily basis there will be time for prayer and reflection, which could be in the form of a personal prayer, formal prayer, reflection and worship. Teachers will plan an overall timetable for Collective Worship and save this onto the shared area to be monitored by the Headteacher, Key Stage Leader, or RE Subject Leader.

The class teacher may need to plan in more detail and will follow the format provided by the archdiocese. The Collective Worship planner will be set in this format – **Gather, Listen, Respond, Go Forth**. Children are also encouraged to plan and lead Collective Worship, under the direction of the teacher, again they will plan using the format above. The teacher should always prepare and lead most Acts of Collective Worship and be an excellent role model for children to emulate;

To help the children to lead and plan Collective Worship, teachers will withdraw their input gradually at the appropriate time - given the age, capacity and stage of development of the children. The teachers will ensure that it must never detract from being an enriching experience where glory, honour and praise is given to God. The REJOICE part of Come and See will be used as a good place to start the process of involving children in preparing and leading worship. All teachers will ensure that for the majority of the 'Listen' stage of the

Collective Worship, scripture will be planned so that the children are listening to the Word of God regularly.

Schemes of Work

A calendar of possible themes to focus on for the Acts Of Collective Worship has been compiled by the staff and this may be used to give ideas for Collective Worship sessions. It takes into account the Church's seasons, significant dates and the curriculum. However there will be times when an event occurs within the school or wider community that, either the children or teacher, wants to focus on and there is flexibility in the calendar of themes to allow for this. Also the focus for the Acts of Collective Worship may be related to the work that is being carried out through the various topics in the "Come and See" Scheme. During staff meetings, the RE subject leader will provide further examples of ideas and/or websites to be used as the basis for Collective Worship eg: CAFOD, Mission Together.

Teaching and Learning Styles

The teaching and learning styles will vary depending on the teacher and children but they will all contain aspects of the following list.

- Quiet reflection, silence, prayers, responses, music,
- songs, dance, drama, slides or video excerpts.
- Ensure the theme, focus, delivery, length and resources are appropriate to the interests, age range, backgrounds and ability of pupils.
- Set an appropriate atmosphere with a sense of order and occasion, including entry and exit.
- Can be offered for a class, a year group, a phase or whole school.
- Provide a focus using artefacts, candles, symbols and lighting. Each class has a collective worship resource box that is easily accessible.
- Respect the freedom of pupils and staff in the invitation to prayer and worship.
- Ensure the possibility of conscious, active participation of all present.

Organisation

Teachers will decide on a block of time that is appropriate to their children and to the other commitments in the school day. It will occur at a time that is meaningful and prayerful for all participants and may vary on a daily basis.

Foundation Stage – approximately 5 minutes.

Key Stage 1 – Year 1 – 5/6 mins, Year 2, 6/7 mins

Key Stage 2 – Year 3 – 7/8 mins, Year 4 – 8/9 mins

Year 5 – 9/10 mins, Year 6 – 10/11 mins

The amount of time spent on Collective Worship will depend on the age of children and the theme that is being focused on.

Differentiation and SEN

All children will have access to the Act of Collective Worship and all children regardless of ability will be encouraged to be actively involved in all aspects. Children should not be taken out of class for SEN lessons until they have participated in Collective Worship.

Assessment

Collective Worship will be evaluated through reference to the variety of experiences possible. Acts of Collective Worship will be evaluated regularly by staff and pupils.

Acts of Collective Worship will at times be observed and the observations will record aspects of the list below and the requirements of the archdiocese detailed in the monitoring pack.

- Enriching religious experience
- Silent prayer
- Individual reflection
- Spiritual issues
- Moral issues
- Personal beliefs
- Liturgical formation
- Content
- Form
- Organisation
- Presentation
- Leadership
- Participation staff/ pupils
- Response from staff/ pupils
- Community spirit
- Common ethos/ shared values
- Positive attitudes
- Age, ability, background of pupils
- Resources
- Accommodation
- Length

Recording

Planning sheets will be completed as suggested by the archdiocese, when Collective Worship observations take place and on other occasions where more detailed planning is needed. Every week class teachers will submit a weekly overall plan.

Acts of Collective Worship will also be recorded through displays, collections of pupils' contributions, prayers, reflections and photographs.

Accommodation

Acts of Collective Worship will in the main take place in the classroom, however where appropriate they may also take place either in the School Hall or out in the open.

Health And Safety

When carrying out Acts of Collective Worship the children will have access to various stimuli resources and they will be encouraged to handle them carefully, with reverence and to take care of them. They will also be reminded about being careful around the candles which are used to help to focus the children's thoughts.

Equal Opportunities

Each child is given every opportunity to participate fully in the Celebration of Collective Worship.

Role of The RE Subject Leader

The RE Subject Leader is responsible for the whole school \collective Worship policy and its annual review in consultation with other members of staff. The co-ordinator takes responsibility for the acquisition and storage of resources with the advice of colleagues. The subject leader will keep the school up to date with the Archdiocese. The subject leader will assist the class teacher when necessary and monitor the Acts of Collective Worship in school. The subject leader will organise a regular timetable of Collective Worship involving parents so that all classes are given the opportunity to worship alongside their parents at least once throughout the year. The subject leader will ensure that new members of staff and students are well supported with the planning of and participation in Collective Worship.

Ideas for Themes for Collective Worship

<u>General</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>World Religious Festivals</u>
New things	Our Lady's Birthday	Islam – New year
Friends	The Triumph of the Cross	Islam – Ramadan
Beginning	Our Lady of Sorrows	Islam – Eid – ul – fitr
Helping A	St Matthew	Judaism – New Year – Rosh Hashanah
Autumn	Our Lady of Walsingham	Judaism Yom Kippur
Harvest	St. Vincent de Paul	Judaism – Hannukah
CAFOD		Judaism – Sukkot
Weather	<u>October</u>	Buddhism – Festival of Light
People who help us	St Therese of Lisieux	Chinese – Mid – Autumn Festival
The Natural World	St Francis	Chinese – Double Ninth Festival
Sharing	Our Lady of the Rosary	Chinese – Winter Solstice
Water / Raindrops	St Teresa of Avila	Hinduism – Divali / Deppavali
Heroes	St Luke	Japanese – Chichibu Night Festival
Warmth	40 Martyrs of England and Wales	Japanese – Heroes Festival
Bonfire Night	St Simon and St Jude	Sikhism – Diwali
Light and Dark		
Ice / Snow	<u>November</u>	
Advent	All Saints	
The shortest Day	All Souls	
Receiving / Giving	Remembrance Day	
Christmas / Gifts	St Martin	
	St Cecilia	
	Christ the King and St Clement	
	St Catherine	
	St James	
	St Andrew	
	<u>December</u>	
	St Francis Xavier	
	St Nicholas	
	St Ambrose	
	The Immaculate Conception	
	St Lucia	
	St John the Evangelist	
	The Holy Family	
	St Thomas Beckett	

<p><u>Themes for Collective Worship</u></p> <p><u>General</u></p> <p>The New Year Food Special Things Water Love Stones Storms Lent Mothers New Life Chocolate Easter Plant / seeds Meals Seasons / spring Thinking of others School Transport Technology Materia</p>	<p><u>Liturgical year</u></p> <p><u>January</u></p> <p>Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God The Epiphany The Baptism of Jesus Conversion of Paul St. John Bosco</p> <p><u>February</u></p> <p>The presentation Our Lady of Lourdes St Valentine</p> <p><u>March</u></p> <p>St David St Patrick St Joseph The Annunciation of the Lord</p> <p><u>April</u></p> <p>St Anselm St George St Mark</p>	<p><u>World Religious – Festivals</u></p> <p>Islam – Eid – ul- adha Judaism – Purim Judaism – Passover Buddhism – Gautama Buddah’s Birth Chinese – New Year Chinese – Lantern Festival Hinduism – Pongal Hinduism – Holi Japanese – Snow Festival Japanese – Flower festival Sikhism – Baisakhi</p>
<p><u>Themes for Collective Worship</u></p> <p><u>Summer Term</u></p> <p>Family Children Church Weather Words Pictures Toys Fathers Body Trust Honesty Homes World Around Us</p>	<p><u>Liturgical Year</u></p> <p><u>May</u></p> <p>The Month Of Mary Joseph the Worker St Philip / St James St Joan of Arc St Augustine of Canterbury The Ascension St. Elizabeth / The Visitation</p> <p><u>June</u></p> <p>Pentecost St Barnabus The Holy Trinity Corpus Christi</p>	<p><u>World Religious Festivals</u></p> <p>Judaism – Shavuot (festival of weeks) Buddhism – New Year Buddhism – Buddah’s Birth, Enlightenment and Death Chinese – Dragon Boat Festival Herd Boy and Weaving Maid Chinese – All Souls Festival Hinduism – Chittrai Japanese – Hollyhock festival Japanese – Star Festival</p>

Journeys Faith Light / Colour Rules Surprises Happiness Senses The Longest Day Summer Mid summer	St. Alban St John Fisher / St. Thomas More St John the Baptist Sacred Heart St Peter and St Paul <u>July</u> St Thomas St Swithins St Mary of Magdalene St James (Apostle) / St Christopher St Martha St Ignatius of Loyola	
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Collective Worship Observation Record

Setting the Atmosphere and Preparing for Worship:

Is there a plan available with content to meet the needs of all present?

Is there an appropriate focus? Are the resources used suitable? Are ICT / Music etc. prepared and ready?

Do all the readers / leaders have all they need? Have all support staff been briefed?

Have invitations been sent to members of the community (if appropriate)?

Is the accommodation suitable and ready?

Gathering:

How do participants gather – is there a sense of order and respect? Is there a procession / movement to another area?

How is a prayerful atmosphere created? Is there an invitation to participate? Does everyone feel welcome?

Is the purpose of the act of worship clear and the focus explained?

Listening:

Is the Scripture they are listening to suitable? Is the Word treated with reverence?

Has / have the reader(s) been well-prepared so as to engage the listener?

How is the 'reading' shared – role play, music, power-point etc.? Is it suitable for the participants?

Do participants listen attentively? Do they show good listening skills?

Responding:

Is there maximum participation? Is time given for individual silent reflection?

Do children pray / respond wholeheartedly? Are adults good role models? Do all adults present participate?

Are participants invited to respond in an appropriate manner? (in a variety of ways?)

Going Forth:

Does Worship conclude appropriately? Do participants leave Collective Worship in a suitable, orderly manner?

How are they enabled to take the message away with them?

Overall:

Was it a positive, enriching religious experience for all present?

Has this worship enhanced the spiritual and / or moral development of those present?

Was the time and content appropriate for the age, ability and background of the children?

Did all parts of worship help to develop the Liturgical formation of participants?

Was it well-organised, led and presented?

Was there a sense of community, common ethos and shared values?

Strengths to celebrate and action to be taken:

Areas to develop and action to be taken:

