

*ST LEO'S AND SOUTHMEAD  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL  
SERVING THE  
COMMUNITY*



*COLLECTIVE WORSHIP  
POLICY*

Reviewed September 2018  
Next Review September 2019

## SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

In our school, we want to celebrate God's gift  
of life together;

By inspiring, enhancing and developing  
tomorrow's talent, today!

We respect all; aiming to achieve and live our  
values.

A place to allow everyone to flourish!



## AIM

To enable children, staff and visitors to St. Leo's and Southmead Catholic Primary School Serving the Community, to have the opportunity to take part in Collective Worship and have time to reflect. To enable and encourage a sense of belonging.

## OBJECTIVES

The children will:

Become aware of reflection and the need for a calm reflective atmosphere. To develop a valuable skill for life.

Develop their own skills of prayer both in thought and aloud.

Be encouraged to create personal prayers and join in with traditional prayers.

Appreciate that we are coming together to pray, to worship and respect each other's needs.

Experience prayer being related to life and living.

Experience the appropriate way to pray when collectively together.

Experience that prayer enables us to communicate with God by listening, speaking, reflecting and resting.

Experience the feeling of reassurance that prayer can provide.

## WHERE

Collective Worship takes place in classrooms, the hall, the prayer room, the library, the outside classroom or school grounds, weather permitting.

## WHEN

Collective Worship takes place each day for approximately five/ten minutes. It is timetabled but also has a flexibility to meet children's needs/worries as well as local/national issues. E.g. environmental disasters. The children are invited to pray or reflect or both.

## FOCAL POINTS

Each teacher develops with the children an area of focus to look at when praying. Increasingly teachers are using I.C.T. as a resource for Collective Worship.

## RESOURCES

Music, focal points, stories and children's prayers, Come and See Website, candles, 'God's Story', 'Church's Story', CAFOD pack and S.E.A.L. (Bereavement Policy) Collective worship CD – provided by Liverpool Archdiocese.

## PLANNING

Collective Worship is planned in relation to the current 'Come and See' topic, current news, local, national and world issues, suggestions from all involved. The content of the Collective Worship is recorded on the Collective Worship planning sheets.

## WHEN

Collective Worship takes place each day.

## ASSEMBLIES/CELEBRATIONS

We have one assembly each week during which the opportunity is taken to reflect upon the 'Come and See' topic and to celebrate children's work/behaviour. Each class has an end of topic celebration which other classes and parents are invited to attend.

## GUIDELINES FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

When – children are to be given the opportunity to take part in Collective Worship each day and are encouraged to be involved with the planning process.

Where – Collective Worship can take place anywhere as long as the atmosphere created is appropriate. Sitting on the grass in a circle, on a sunny day may be the perfect place at the right time. Sitting together on the carpet in the classroom, may be the right place another time. The important thing is to create a change from what the children do for the rest of the day.

How – Always create an atmosphere which is calm. This can be achieved by the music, story, pictures and having a focal point. The simplest can sometimes be the best – a leaf, a photograph, a candle, or a song. Singing together.

Time – keep the time short and meaningful.

Planning – Always plan your Collective Worship before hand, choosing an appropriate prayer, theme and place. Be flexible to change if the children bring their own thoughts/ideas un-expectantly

Content – Vary the content, be selective.

Traditional prayers

Modern prayers

The children's own prayers

Readings

Poetry

Music- traditional- Modern. The words make beautiful prayers.

John Burland CD

Current events.

Collective Worship prompt cards

"Come and See" suggests prayers in every topic, and gives guidelines for appropriate age levels.

We hope Collective Worship is meaningful to all who take part, is celebratory and sensitive. It is an opportunity for us to Collectively Worship and rejoice. It is an opportunity for us to 'be still' and in thought together and a time for peace and calm, which is invaluable to our children and staff.

## **SAFE GUARDING**

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purpose of this guidance as:-

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

## **PROMOTING BRITISH VALUES**

At St Leo's and Southmead Primary School we aim to help, guide and prepare our children as future citizens. As our Mission Statement says, our school is "A place to allow humanity to flourish!" This statement permeates everything that we do in school and captures what British Values are about:-

- Democracy
- The Rule of Law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect

- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

We grasp every opportunity throughout the school day to teach, model and show by examples all of the above. We have provided further information on our school website. We are proud of our school and are proud of the British Values that we live and learn about.