



# SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School



## Policy on Prayer & Liturgy (Collective Worship)

Policy Written & Agreed:

Ratified by Full Governing Body:

To be reviewed:

September 2024

September 2025



**SS Peter & Paul**

**Whole School Policy on Prayer & Liturgy (Collective Worship)**

This Prayer & Liturgy (collective worship) policy:-

- reflects the consensus of opinion of the whole staff;
- was discussed, written and agreed by the whole staff;
- has been approved by the Governing body.

The implementation and ownership of this policy is the responsibility of the whole staff.

The overall accountability and effectiveness of the policy will be the responsibility of the Executive Head Teacher, RE Co-ordinator and Senior Leadership Team.

At SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School we take the teaching of Religious Education as our core purpose; bringing the word of God and God’s love to all. We believe that we are all created in God’s image and called by God to live a life of service to him. We live the teachings of the Gospel in our daily lives. Prayer & Liturgy (Collective Worship) supports the Catholic Life of our school and we value every opportunity we get to gather and worship God.

As a Catholic school we regard every individual as unique and special in God’s family. This policy is designed to support every member of our school, taking into account their unique and special nature as part of God’s Catholic community.

## Mission Statement

*‘We live and learn in the light of Christ.’*

### 1.0 Aims of Prayer & Liturgy (Collective Worship)

1.1 Prayer & Liturgy is an integral part of school life at SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School where all staff:

- are actively promoting and involving children in prayer & liturgy (collective worship), ensuring genuine enthusiasm, which is evidenced in the reverence of the act.
- facilitate pupils to lead prayer & liturgy (collective worship).
- provide opportunities for a variety of resources to be accessible to children.
- ensure that the Church’s Liturgical Year/Seasons and Feasts are promoted appropriately.
- ensure that meaningful and high quality praying together is part of daily experience. This includes all gatherings e.g. classes, assemblies, workshops, parent meetings, governor meetings and staff meetings.
- ensure all collective worship will have a clear purpose, themes will reflect a deep understanding of the liturgical season and Church’s mission in education.
- have a strong understanding of the Church’s Liturgical Year/Seasons and Feasts.
- are very visible as models of outstanding practice around school.

1.2 Different forms of prayer & liturgy (collective worship) that take place at our school including:

- During the week pupils from all year groups gather together for Whole School assemblies and Key Stage liturgies; Gospel Liturgy Assembly is led by the Head Teacher witnessing Christ every Monday and a celebration of their God given talents takes place every Friday during Praise & Celebration Assembly.
- Mass is celebrated on a fortnightly basis and classes take it in turns to lead the Mass. Many members of the Parish and School Community join us to celebrate Mass as the Mass dates and times are published in the school and parish newsletters.
- Class prayer services are organised by individual classes.
- Child led prayer services are planned, prepared and delivered by Key Stage 2 children across the school.

1.3 The format of each act of collective worship should be as follows

- **Gathering** – the introduction
- **Listening** – the teaching
- **Responding** – the interaction with the “assembly”
- **Mission (Go Forth)** – the message/challenge for the day ahead

#### 1.3.1 Gathering

- Gathering together is special – have a focus for prayer around which to gather
- Dress the altar/focus for prayer with the children
- Use symbols – a lighted candle, a cross, a Bible, a Statue, symbols of the liturgical season.
- Use the greetings we use at Mass – the sign of the Cross, “The Lord be with you”, holy water.
- Use music – to set the scene.

### 1.3.2 **Listening**

- To prayer
- To the Word of God –reading the Scripture –this is what God wants to share with us –the message for today.
- We should teach the children to mark the Gospel reading with crosses – to say or to think: May the words of Jesus be in our minds and on our lips and in our hearts. It is often useful to use mime or role play to engage the children in the text.

### 1.3.3 **Responding**

We respond in different ways:

- We give thanks and praise to God in prayer or song
- We make intercessions through the formal prayers of the Church, through imaginative prayer.
- We pray silently – listening to what God has to say to us in our stillness and silence.

### 1.3.4 **Mission (Go Forth)**

- This is the plenary. It gives us the springboard or challenge for the day. It reminds us of how the message of the assembly affects our lives.

## 2.0 **Diocesan Virtues and British Values**

At SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School we want every member of our school community to grow in faith to enable them to become a valuable member of our school community; going on to contribute positively to the wider world as they grow. To enable this to happen we follow the Diocesan Virtues supported by the British Values directed by the Government.

### 2.1 **Promoting Diocesan Virtues at SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School**

The DfE have recently reinforced the need *“to create and enforce a clear and rigorous expectation on all schools to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.”*

2.1.1 First and foremost, we recognise that our role as a Catholic school is to uphold our Catholic values and virtues and our mission statement that: *‘We live and learn in the light of Christ.’* The Virtues we want everyone to show at SS Peter & Paul are:

**Grateful** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

**Attentive** to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

**Compassionate** towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by their just actions and forgiving words.

**Faith-filled** in their beliefs; and **hopeful** for the future.

**Eloquent** and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

**Learned**, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

**Curious** about everything; and **active** in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

**Intentional** in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.

## 2.2 Promoting British Values at SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School

We use this as our basis for all that we do here and ensure British Values are entwined in this.

### Democracy - (Equal Rights and Privileges)

**Eloquent and Truthful-** To articulate clearly what we believe and do so in a way that persuades others. We speak the truth about the world around us.

**Learned and Wise-** To know about God’s creation and about people who are a part of it but these facts and skills are of little value unless we have the wisdom to see what is and what is not important.

### Democracy:

Pupils have the opportunity to have their voices heard through our School Council and Pupil questionnaires. The children have the chance to elect two representatives from each class who they feel will represent their classes views. The school council has been involved in organising charity events for those less fortunate than our selves. They also hold regular meetings with their class to determine items for the next agenda. We also have Sports Ambassadors that are elected to represent classes. The Sports Ambassadors have had their say in the extra-curricular clubs they want and also in the purchase of PE equipment. Year 6 apply for the role of class monitor. This involves them being assigned to a class for a year. They not only do jobs/errands for teachers but are responsible for gathering classes together in preparation for assemblies/Masses. Year 6 are also entrusted with the role of playground buddies which they must apply for. Their role is to support and look after children in KS1.

### Individual Liberty - (Free exercise of rights outside of government control)

**Grateful and Generous-** Count your blessings every day and remember to pause sometimes to nudge things to make them right. Give to others without counting the cost and be men and women for others.

**Faith-filled and Hopeful-** Have faith in your own emotions and judgements and once we have faith we have hope in ourselves and those around us with decisions which will shape our future.

### Individual Liberty:

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for young pupils to make choices safely, through of provision of a safe environment and empowering education. Pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and they are given advice on how to exercise these safely, for example through our E-Safety and circle time. Whether it be through choice of challenge, of how they record, of participation in our numerous extra-curricular clubs and opportunities, pupils are given the freedom to make choices. We actively encourage our children to make the right choices and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

### Rule of Law - (Everyone is subject to and accountable to the law and ensure that it is fairly applied and enforced)

**Curiosity and Active-** To be engaged by probing/seeking/challenging/questioning until the truth is clear. Change what you can for the better.

**Intentional and Prophetic-** Live our lives getting the balance right, living in the present moment rather than in the unchangeable past or unknown future. Set examples to others.

### The Rule of Law:

The importance of Laws, whether they be those that govern the class, the school, or the country, are consistently reinforced throughout regular school days, as well as when dealing with behaviour and through school assemblies. Our classroom behaviour chart which is used throughout the school helps children to understand that there are consequences for their actions and a set of sanctions are followed. Pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. Visits from authorities such as the Police- JPCSO scheme; Fire Service; etc. are regular parts of our calendar and help reinforce this message. Our classroom behaviour chart reinforces

**Mutual Respect and Tolerance - (Behaviour expected and respecting others)**

**Compassionate and Loving-** To sense deeply the predicament of others and a love which is outgoing and not focussed on yourself.

**Attentive and Discerning-** Give attention to both the big and small things and to the responses of other people. Once we are attentive, we can decide what is/what is not good for us and be what God calls us to be.

**Mutual Respect:**

At the heart of our Gospel teachings from Jesus Christ is our school behaviour statement:

**‘To love one another as I have loved you’.**

We can do this by:-

- treating others as we wish to be treated
- always doing as we are asked by adults in school
- always showing respect to everyone and everything
- trying our best in everything we do

If we follow these rules **OUR** school will be a happy place to work and play in.

This is at the core of our school and we expect all to adhere to this teaching regardless of background, faith, or race. Everyone is treated with respect in our school. Part of our school ethos and behaviour policy has revolved around the Catholic Virtues and living these in our daily lives.

**Tolerance of those of Different Faiths and Beliefs:**

This is achieved through enhancing pupils understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society and by giving them opportunities to experience such diversity. We hold a yearly ‘International Week,’ where a world religion is allocated to each class. During this week, we explore the history of the faith, rituals and origins. We also through our Remembrance work, recognised all those who fought and died in World Wars to maintain and uphold our values.

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# We live and learn in the light of Christ!

## Autumn Term 1

**Catholic Virtues** - Curious & Active

**Gospel Values** - Tolerance & Peace

*"Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God."*

**Learning Value** - Be Respectful

## Autumn Term 2

**Catholic Virtues** - Intentional & Prophetic

**Gospel Values** - Faithfulness & Integrity

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."*

**Learning Value** - Be Resilient

## Spring Term 1

**Catholic Virtues** - Grateful & Generous

**Gospel Values** - Truth & Justice

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be satisfied."*

**Learning Value** - Be Responsible

## Summer Term 2

**Catholic Virtues** - Faith-filled & Hopeful

**Gospel Values** - Gentleness & Humility

*"Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth."*

**Learning Value** - Be Reflective

## Summer Term 1

**Catholic Virtues** - Compassionate & Loving

**Gospel Values** - Forgiveness & Mercy

*"Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall obtain mercy"*

**Learning Value** - Be Reasonable

## Spring Term 2

**Catholic Virtues** - Attentive & Discerning

**Gospel Values** - Service & Sacrifice

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness'  
sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."*

**Learning Value** - Be Resourceful



FAITH

ACHIEVEMENT

HAPPINESS



FAITH

ACHIEVEMENT

HAPPINESS



# Democracy

Service & Sacrifice

Humility & Gentleness

Eloquent & Truthful

Learned & Wise

# Individual Liberty

Faithfulness & Integrity

Purity & Holiness

Grateful & Generous

Faith-Filled & Hopeful

*At SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School*

## BRITISH VALUES

*are firmly rooted in*

## GOSPEL VALUES

*and under-pinned by*

## CATHOLIC VIRTUES *and*

## LEARNING VALUES

# Rule of Law

Truth & Justice

Forgiveness & Mercy

Curious & Active

Intentional & Prophetic

# Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Dignity & Compassion

Tolerance & Peace

Compassionate & Loving

Attentive & Discerning

*We live and learn in the light of Christ!*



# Democracy

- Voting System - School Council, House Captains and Vice-Captains, Playground Buddies, Talent Show, Book Quiz
- Parish Priest Assemblies and Sermons on Morals
- Staff, Parent & Pupil Questionnaires
- Whole School Assembly
- Visit to Houses of Parliament
- Visit of our Local Member of Parliament
- Knowledge of Local and National Government

# BRITISH VALUES

- Whole School Mission Statement
- School Rules
- Behaviour & Uniform Policy
- Home School Agreement
- 'Good to be Green' Behaviour System
- 'Time out' Sanctions system
- 'Star of the Week' & 'Merit Certificate' Reward system
- Safeguarding - Internet Safety & E-safety
- Local Police Workshops (PCSO)

# Rule of Law

# Individual Liberty

- School Virtues & Values
- Mission Statement
- Ownership of Behaviour
- Acknowledgment of differences
- Promoting Healthy Living - Fitness & Diet
- Choice of After School Clubs and activities
- Supporting our Local Community and Parish
- Anti-Bullying Education and awareness week



# Mutual Respect and Tolerance

- Diocesan Virtues & Values Education
- Religious Celebrations and Multi-Faith weeks
- Multi-Cultural Celebrations and Visits
- Fundraising & Charity Work
- Elderly Parishioners Lunch
- School Council Campaigns - Parking
- Celebration Assemblies
- Roles and Responsibilities - Buddies & Monitors

at

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