



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

March 2023



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Collective Worship Policy

Revision History Page

Date	Version	Description of changes	Author	Approval level	Approval details
	1.0			Review Q&S Approve FGB	Approved Summer 2017 Next review Summer 2020
23.03.21				Review & Approve by FGB	Approved 23.03.21 Next Review Spring 26

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

Rationale

Collective worship provides the opportunity for our community to respond to God. It allows us to enter into a loving relationship with Him, made possible by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is concerned with giving glory, honour, praise and thanks to God. It is our loving response, in word and action, to God's invitation to enter into relationship, made possible through the work of Jesus Christ and the witness of the Holy Spirit.

The aim of this Collective Worship Policy is to provide the opportunity for pupils to:

- Worship God
- Reflect on Christian values and beliefs
- Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values
- Consider spiritual and moral issues
- Respond to the worship offered
- Develop their own prayer lives and relationship with God

Statutory Duty of the School

It is a statutory requirement that a daily act of Collective Worship must be provided for all pupils within our school. However, worship in this school is more than just a legal requirement. It is an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic tradition.

Collective Worship and assembly are distinct activities. They may sometimes form part of the same gathering, but the difference between the two must always be made clear.

Collective Worship, whether incorporated into an assembly; within classrooms; or within the Parish or local community takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- those who for whom school may be their first and only experience of church;
- those from other Christian traditions – or none;
- those from other faith backgrounds.

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The Aims of Collective Worship

We believe that Collective Worship in our school aims to provide opportunity for all pupils and staff:

- to contemplate something of the mystery of God
- to reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- to explore their own beliefs
- to respond to and celebrate life
- to experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit
- to develop a common ethos and shared values
- to enrich religious experience
- to grow in liturgical understanding and development
- to reinforce prayers which are part of the Catholic tradition
- to reinforce positive attitudes
- to participate fully
- to take time out “to wonder at”, “to come to terms with” and “ to give worth to.”

At Our Lady of Lourdes School daily acts of Collective Worship will take place as follows:

	Early Years/Key Stage 1	Key Stage 2
Monday	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>	<i>Key Stage Gathering</i>
Tuesday	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>
Wednesday	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>
Thursday	<i>Key Stage Gathering</i>	<i>Class Collective Worship</i>
Friday	<i>Whole School Gathering</i>	<i>Whole School Gathering</i>

For other acts of Collective Worship in addition to the above, such as Mass Attendance, see Liturgical Year Plan

Implementation

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Reviewed March 2023
Next review Spring 2026

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“Preparation is essential to good liturgy. Individual liturgies should grow from reflection on the scriptures of the day, how it relates to the faith experience of the people involved, and how best the Gospel can be shared with children”.

*Liturgy of the Word with Children: Guidelines.
Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, 1996*

Staff are required to plan all acts of Collective Worship thoughtfully.

The focus for Collective Worship may come from a number of sources:

- Sunday’s Gospel reading
- The Liturgical Seasons
- The Cycle of Prayer
- Come and See topic
- Saints’ Days
- Personal Choice

All acts of Collective Worship must be planned using the liturgical structure of Gather-Listen-Respond-Go.

Eucharist

Eucharistic celebrations in school will highlight a special occasion and will normally be celebrated in full with children whose faith development has reached an appropriate stage. The same general principles will apply to planning a Eucharistic celebration as other acts of school worship, therefore opportunities for children to participate will be maximised.

Prayer

Prayer is the expression of our relationship with God. Our prayers are expressed through:

Formal prayer

Silent prayer

Children’s own prayers

Spontaneous prayer

Responses at Mass

Novenas

Benediction

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Meditation
Hymns and song
Come and See reflections
End of day reflections
Staff reflections
Grace before meals

The children are assisted in exploring a variety of methods of individual prayer and group prayer in both formal and informal style and setting.

The Co-ordinator for Collective Worship in the school is Karen Cordell

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Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The school will review this policy every three years and assess its implementation and effectiveness. The policy will be promoted and implemented throughout the school.