



## Collective Worship Policy

Member of Staff Responsible: Joe Greenhalgh

Comments: The Ted Wragg Trust have agreed that St Luke's will retain its own Collective Worship Policy rather than use that of the Trust for the time being.

Date Policy Approved: 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Date of Next Review: February 2024



## St. Luke's Church of England School

### Collective Worship Policy

<b>Date of Adoption:</b>	<b>March 2018</b>	
<b>Frequency of Review:</b>	<b>2 Years</b>	
<b>Review Date:</b>	<b>January 2024</b>	<b>(Updated February 2022)</b>
<b>SLT Responsibility:</b>	<b>Joe Greenhalgh</b>	
<b>Governor Link:</b>	<b>Ethos Committee</b>	

#### Introduction and Rationale

At St Luke's Church of England School we recognise that it is possible to worship God in all areas of life, whether through doing excellent research, demonstrating kindness to another student or playing music. One way that we encourage this is through 'big questions' that heads of departments have identified for their curriculum area. Equally, we recognise that there are particular moments which are termed as worship.

A moment of 'collective worship' is different to a moment of 'corporate worship'. Corporate worship assumes a shared set of beliefs; for example, when a church gathers on a Sunday and worships God through song and prayer. In collective worship, there is no assumption that those present share the same set of beliefs. Therefore, at St Luke's a moment of collective worship is inclusive and invitational; everyone present is invited to engage, whether of any religious faith or none.

Collective worship should enable students and staff to flourish, which is central to Jesus' offer of 'life to the full'. It is an opportunity for students and staff to explore 'life to the full', experience something of that life, be equipped and express our school values, particularly through showing respect, giving hope and being inclusive.

Our moments of collective worship take place primarily through 'Mindful Moments' in tutorial, assemblies and moments of reflection.

#### Aims of Collective Worship

*At St Luke's Church of England School Collective Worship aims to:*

#### **1. Enable students to explore the Christian faith and other beliefs and begin to shape their own beliefs and worldview.**

We do this by:

- Encouraging consideration of and response to fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings.

- Promoting relational awareness; your relationship with your self, others, the world and God.
- Providing opportunities to encounter God through prayer and/or to reflect on how to respond to a particular question or issue.
- Mark significant occasions, including the festivals of Christmas and Easter.
- Enable students to understand the importance of the Eucharist to Christians.

## **2. Strengthen and support the school community through fostering a sense of belonging and identity.**

We do this by

- Celebrating each unique individual member made in the image of God
- Giving expression to, reaffirming and practising the values of the school community, particularly of showing respect, giving hope and being inclusive.
- Celebrating and giving thanks for achievements within the school and further afield.
- Providing the opportunity to grieve or mourn when appropriate.
- Ensuring students feel safe and affirmed.
- Cultivating a concern for the needs of others and provide an opportunity to respond.

## **3. Reflect the rich diversity amongst human beings and the wide range of ways in which people can worship.**

We do this by:

- Involving students and staff in preparation and acts of collective worship, ensuring that a voice is given to students and staff from minority groups.
- Making use of many different curriculum areas in worship, for example music, art, drama, poetry, IT.
- Making use of a variety of traditions and enable students to experience a range of styles in which to worship.

### **Structure**

In St Luke's Church of England School, daily worship is organised centrally by a member of the senior team in consultation with other senior pastoral staff and delivered by our team of tutors, Heads of Year and Chaplains, who are each attached to a year group. Collective worship primarily takes place through 'Mindful Moments' in tutorial, assemblies and moments of reflection. This may be followed up with staff or chaplains exploring issues further with small groups or individual students.

### **Planning**

In planning worship regard is given to:

- Making a clear link between faith and students' lived experiences.
- Ensuring that all students can access concepts and issues that are addressed.
- Using verses or passages from the Bible and unpacking these clearly.
- Addressing misconceptions about the Christian faith.
- Making sure that collective worship encourages students to reflect on their own beliefs and experiences.
- Presenting the traditions of the Anglican church in a way which is accessible to all ages and ability.
- Observing the cycle of the Church's year and selecting themes appropriate to it and to the students' aptitude and ability.

- Considering the cycle of the school year and ensuring worship addresses issues on students' minds at the right time.

Special services are also planned from time to time, for example welcoming new students to school, acknowledging the departure of older students, Christmas Carol Concert, Easter services.

## **Recording and Evaluation**

At St Luke's Church of England School all acts of worship are planned and recorded. This is achieved by:

- On-going liaison between Worship Coordinator, Chaplains and Heads of Year
- Termly planning within a holistic annual framework - identifying key moments in the Christian Calendar and links to key pastoral concerns in school life. Each week a key message and aim is identified for moments of collective worship, which is linked to one of our five school values. There is also a thought for the week which links to the theme and provides a basis for reflection and discussion.

A member of the Senior Leadership Team, currently the Headteacher and Senior Leader for Ethos, is responsible for worship and will be present at the above meetings to record all acts of worship and evaluate.

Foundation Governors and all Governors will also help to monitor assemblies and 'Mindful Moments'. Students are regularly consulted (as detailed below) and their feedback feeds into the planning of collective worship in future terms.

## **Monitoring**

The Collective worship will be monitored by:

1. The Ethos Committee (termly). This discussion will include:
  - Review of content and methodology
  - Links to curriculum and classroom experience
  - Resources and budget
  - CPD
2. Annual review of the coordination of collective worship with the Senior Leadership Team and the Ethos Committee
3. Student panels carried out by a member of the Senior Leadership Team, including interviews with the Student Executive.
4. Termly student surveys.
5. Student voice that feeds into the ethos committee.
6. Attendance at worship by Governors for monitoring purposes
7. Confirming with the Diocesan Education Board that the requirements of the law are being met and that collective worship is in line with recommendations from the Church of England.