

Bryn St Peter's CE Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Last updated: September 2021

Bryn St Peter's Church of England Primary School

Statement of Intent

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and enter his gates with praise! Give thanks to him and bless his name!” Psalms 100:4

School Mission Statement

Our church school is committed to the provision and celebration of excellent education in a Christian context. In a caring, and respectful community, where Christian values are at the core of everything we do, we encourage pupils to excel and develop their full potential.

All children are welcomed into a secure and safe environment where they are valued as unique and are included, accepted as individuals and where achievements are celebrated.

Together, with God, we are building our future.

Our Core Christian Values

FAITH

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

COMPASSION

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

HOPE

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

RESPECT

Matthew 7:12

Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you.

LOVE

1 John 4:7

Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God.

Rationale

Bryn St Peter's is a Church of England Primary School. As such, it takes its responsibility to educate children in the beliefs and practices of the Christian faith very seriously. A Christian ethos is actively fostered in the school in relation to all aspects of school life; worship is seen as central to this process. The 1988 Education Reform Act, modified by the Education Act (1993), requires all pupils in attendance at a maintained school "to take part in a daily act of collective worship" ERA Sections 6(1).

Aims of Collective Worship at Bryn St Peter's

- To provide an opportunity for children to learn to pray and worship God
- To help children to develop compassion, interior posture, wisdom and courage and endurance through Christ's example
- To provide our pupils and staff with regular opportunities for stillness, reflection and prayer.
- To teach children how story, music, song, prayer, reflection, symbols, ritual and liturgical language assist us in worship
- To celebrate all aspects of school life and Christian community including the sharing of the gifts and talents of all our pupils.
- To promote the spiritual development of our children
- To develop a sense of community
- To introduce children to the language and rituals of the Church of England
- To introduce children to the important festivals, holy days and celebrations of the major World religions; Christian, Buddhist, Islamic, Sikh, Hindu and Jewish and faiths
- To celebrate and learn about cultural and religious diversity
- To provide an opportunity for collective celebration of success and key events in the life of the school
- To develop children's social and emotional literacy

Organisation of collective worship

In light of Covid -19, we are currently not holding face to face, whole school worship.

The current organisation is as follows;

Day and time	Focus	Classes	Led by
Monday 9.05 10.45	Themed worship	KS2 KS1	Head Teacher
Tuesday Varied	Themed class worship	All classes	Class Teacher
Wednesday 9.05 10.45	Praise and worship	KS2 KS1	Assistant Head
Thursday Varied	Picture News class worship	All classes	Class Teacher
Friday 9.05	Celebration	Whole school Via Teams	Head Teacher

This is under constant review in accordance with Public Health England guidelines.

Collective Worship routines

A calendar of collective worship themes is organised by the collective worship lead, for each school year.

The themes are drawn from:

- Values for Life resource
- The Church's year
- Festivals of other important worshipping communities; major World
- Other religious festivals
- Picture News resource

Collective worship is carefully planned and includes

- Use of traditional Church of England opening
- A focus Bible verse, story or inspirational image quote
- Music for entering, exciting or setting the tone
- A hymn or spiritual song.
- A story / drama / activity
- Time for reflection on the message of the collective worship
- The lighting of a candle and the use of words to explain the presence of the Holy Spirit during collective worship,
- The Lord's Prayer and the Grace are taught to children
- Pupil contribution through prayer

Whole School Worship

- Some worships are planned to celebrate the major Christian festivals: Harvest, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost as well as national days e.g. Remembrance and Holocaust Day. Care is taken to create a sense of occasion for our Worship.
- Prior to Covid-19, some worships are extended to all children and adults in school including visitors).
- Prior to Covid-19 we welcomed governors and parents and carers attendance at collective worship at any time.

This is under constant review in accordance with Public Health England guidelines.

R.A.V.E Group

School has a R.A.V.E group comprising of children from years 2 to 6.

Their purpose is to review how collective worship and to talk to their peers about ways in which worship can be improved. The R.A.V.E group are responsible for the delivery different aspects of collective worship, both in the classroom and during joint worship. The R.A.V.E group also highlight children who have used Christian Values, these are then celebrated in Celebration Assembly.

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend collective worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

Collective Worship Lead - Mrs Cheryl Brady

Signed: *C Brady*

Headteacher - Mrs Julie Alcock

Signed: *J. Alcock*