



SAINT NORBERT'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Mission Statement: To live, love and learn in the footprints of Jesus.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

As a Rights Respecting School, we acknowledge our role as 'duty bearers' in promoting and protecting children's rights.



We respect the dignity and worth of every child. We believe that children have the right to choose their own religion and beliefs and that they should be helped to decide what is right and wrong and what is best for them.

Worship forms an important part of every day at St Norbert's.

Our Collective Worship is concerned with the revelation of God's presence so that praise, honour and thanksgiving may be given to Him. Collective worship should strengthen this Eucharistic community, which is called together to give witness to Jesus Christ. Collective worship is this community's response to God, which invites us to enter into a loving relationship with Him, made possible by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Collective worship takes place on a daily basis, with all the children and staff involved (whenever possible).

Aims and Objectives

- to help the children to understand some of the elements of liturgy such as greeting, silence, community praise - especially in song, which have a great part to play in their liturgical formation in the life of the church
- to teach children how to be festive: to know how to celebrate their love for one another and the mystery of God's love at each stage of their experience
- to foster their spiritual development by creating opportunities for thought, for prayer, for stillness and silence
- to wonder at God's creation and to give worth to each life experience

Planning for Collective Worship

This takes place with RE Subject Leader (Headteacher) and class teachers when we meet to prepare our religious education prior to the beginning of each term. Themes and celebrations are linked to the Come and See planning with masses and other celebrations put in the diary. Teachers are responsible for the detail of their class worship which links to the topic and liturgical year.

Parish Celebrations

The whole school celebrates at least once at the beginning and end of each term in the Church of St Norbert, with Mass led by the Parish Priest. Special celebrations held throughout the year include Harvest, First Holy Communion, Lent, Pentecost, Retreat Days, Ascension Day, Saints Days, Our Lady of the Rosary, May Procession, Advent, Corpus Christi and the Leavers' Mass. The children take an active part in liturgical preparation and presentation. Children are guided by the Liturgy Group, 'The Leading Lights' led by pupils in Class 5, but with members from each of the classes.

Whole School Worship

A whole-school assembly and collective worship is held at the beginning and end of each week in the school hall. Children and staff reaffirm their unity and purpose in fulfilling our school's Mission Statement. The Headteacher (RE Subject Leader) plans and leads Monday and Friday collective worship. A Plan and Evaluation folder is kept for each Collective Worship. Class-led worship for the whole school takes place in turn by each class at least twice each year. Parents are always invited to these very popular occasions, although owing to their popularity numbers per family sometimes have to be limited. Completed evaluation sheets are stored in the school office.

We worship with the wider community. We also pray with members of other faith communities and visitors from other World Faiths, especially Judaism and Islam.

Class / Child-led Worship

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week, worship takes place within the class setting (once a week with the whole of each Key Stage). This allows an opportunity to provide age-appropriate liturgies and to worship together, to celebrate aspects of 'Come and See' or the 'Statements to Live By' through the children's personal experiences, responses and reflections. The RE Subject Leader shares and monitors class collective worship and supports staff planning for individual classes as required.

Class worship time allows children to develop different forms of prayer and celebration; this fosters awe and wonder for God's creation. Children are encouraged to use Let Us Pray materials to plan their own liturgies and are given many opportunities to develop their own resources to complement those already available. Opportunities are given for children to share their personal experiences in an atmosphere of empathy and prayer at the age appropriate level, and to celebrate their achievements and talents as gifts from God.

We use a graduated approach to support children in child-led worship. This follows a set pattern in our liturgies, throughout the school: Gather, Word, Response and Mission.



Class collective worship progression at St Norbert's

Year group	Expectations	Resources	Other forms of prayer
Foundation stage	<p>Children use Let Us Pray proforma and resources to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated and supported by an adult. All children have an opportunity to plan and lead a liturgy by the summer term.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p> <p>Teacher to explicitly model liturgy to children a least once a term.</p> <p>Advent/Lent Term – whole class planning</p> <p>Pentecost Term – group planning</p>	<p>Let us Pray cards and liturgy box</p> <p>Classroom resources</p> <p>Every child has a Lion's Bible</p>	<p>1 minute meditation facilitated by adult</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p>
Early Phase (KS1)	<p>Children to use Let Us Pray proforma and resources to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated by adult.</p> <p>Children to plan and prepare focal point for worship according to liturgical season/Come and See topic.</p> <p>Beginning of Yr1 onwards, all children to plan liturgies in groups, facilitated by an adult.</p> <p>Yr2 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>	<p>Let us Pray cards and liturgy box</p> <p>Classroom resources</p> <p>Every child has a KS1 Bible</p> <p>Blank cards</p> <p>Access to music</p>	<p>2 minutes meditation facilitated by adult</p> <p>Lectio Divina introduced from Year 2, scripture sourced by adult, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, facilitated by adult</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p>
Middle Phase (Y3&4)	<p>Yr3 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy.</p> <p>Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p> <p>Yr4 – Children to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, a response to the word, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy.</p> <p>Children to use Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar and Open Bible to support planning of class liturgies from Pentecost Term (if suitable). Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>	<p>Let us Pray cards and liturgy box (move away from cards)</p> <p>Classroom resources</p> <p>Every child has a Good News KS2 Bible</p> <p>Blank cards</p> <p>Access to music</p> <p>Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar (yr4)</p> <p>Open Bible access (yr4)</p>	<p>3 minutes meditation led by an adult</p> <p>Yr3 - Lectio Divina scripture sourced by adult, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, facilitated by adult</p> <p>Yr4 – pupils select scripture linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic for Lectio Divina, led by children, supported by adult</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p>
Upper Phase (Y5&6)	<p>Children to use Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar to support planning of class liturgies. Children to use Open Bible online resource to select a reading linked to the theme provided on liturgical calendar.</p> <p>Pupils to then find the passage in Bible to add to their prayer focus.</p> <p>Children to generate their own gather, response, word and mission according to the theme. They may use songs, actions, prayers, classroom resources within the liturgy. We encourage active participants throughout.</p> <p>This is overseen by an adult, and guided only when necessary.</p> <p>Evaluation is recorded on School Evaluation Sheet following whole class discussion.</p> <p>Children are encouraged to give reasons for their responses and recommendations.</p>	<p>Open Bible link on home screen</p> <p>Every child has a Good News KS2 Bible</p> <p>Liturgy box</p> <p>Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar</p> <p>Prayer area resources</p> <p>Access to YouTube/music</p> <p>NDCYS planning document</p> <p>School Evaluation document</p>	<p>4-5 minutes meditation led by anyone in class</p> <p>Lectio Divina scripture sourced by pupils using Open Bible resource, linked to liturgical year or Come and See topic, completely child led</p> <p>Encourage opportunities for spontaneous prayer</p>

Children are encouraged to pray for their family and friends, showing empathy and compassion for the wider community and global issues. They are also encouraged to pray for the poor and marginalised, translating their prayers and thoughts into meaningful help wherever possible; to pray to give thanks; to pray for forgiveness when they are sorry.

Prayer during the Day

During the course of the day, children pause for prayer and reflection including a whole-school Morning Prayer, the Angelus often at 12 o'clock and Grace before meals. They also pray to mark the end of the school day. Our RE curriculum also provides additional time for prayer and meditation at the beginning or end of RE lessons as required.

Individual Prayers and Worship

Our entrance hall has a prayer area with a selection of prayers to suit different ages and stages. We also display class-composed prayers to remind the children to stop and share a few moments with God. The prayer area is well-used and individual prayers are written in the prayer area daily.

Our Collective Worship takes many forms using:

- hymns, songs, musical presentation and recorded music
- poems, psalms and choral speaking
- dance, drama and mime
- class composed and individually composed prayers
- art and craft
- biblical stories from both Old and New Testaments
- stories from other faiths and cultures
- liturgical ritual and responses
- traditional Catholic Prayer
- quiet reflection
- spontaneous prayer
- celebration of Come and See theme

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils (this can take place at any time during the school day and can be either a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups).

The act of worship is not designated curriculum time and will not be considered as part of the RE lesson (for time allocation). Parents have, if they wish, the right to withdraw children. In this Catholic Voluntary Academy, responsibility for arranging collective worship rests with the Governing Body in consultation with the Headteacher.

Policy updated: September 2023