

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY



## ST AUGUSTINE'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Document Name	Collective Worship Policy
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\*subject to any relevant changes in legislation or other appropriate guidelines

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## INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 St Augustine's C of E Primary School is Part of the Vantage Multi Academy Trust (Herein the 'Trust'). This policy works in accordance with the Trust wide R.E policy, and St Augustine's Vision & Values Policy.
- 1.2 At St Augustine's we are committed to valuing and nurturing each child as an individual who will achieve their best and develop an enthusiasm for lifelong learning. Our vision is for the children in our school to grow into responsible, caring and fulfilled adults who actively and positively contribute to the society in which they live. We are committed to raising standards, values and self-esteem for all those involved with our school through cultivating a secure, yet exciting environment that is positive, supportive, stimulating and enriching.
- 1.3 As a Church of England Primary School we see our Collective Worship as a central part of school life. Our Collective Worship policy fulfils the statutory requirements common to all schools according to the 1988 Education Reform Act (and consolidated in the 1996 Education Act). It also fulfils the Diocesan requirements for a voluntary controlled church school which states that worship will be Christian in content with an Anglican emphasise.

## AIMS

- 2.1 Our aim as a school is that our worship contributes to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all children and staff. This policy has been written in recognition that Collective Worship is an important chance to provide an opportunity for our pupils' and staffs' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- 2.2 We endeavour to provide a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which enables them to:
  - Worship God.
  - Reflect on Christian values for schools, personal development, multi-faith festivals and curriculum aptitudes.
  - Develop a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
  - Consider spiritual and moral issues.
  - Respond to the worship offered.
  - Respond to Christian language and symbolism and experience stillness and quiet.

- Experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include praise, seeking forgiveness or quiet reflection.
- Begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship.

2.3 We ensure Collective Worship, whether in assembly or class time, will:

- Be distinctly Christian in content and follow the liturgical calendar.
- Be led by senior leaders, staff, children, clergy and visitors.
- Develop the Christian vision, values and ethos of the school and focus on our school Christian values.
- Include a range of creative opportunities e.g. music, silence, symbol, drama.
- Heavily involve pupils, through members of the Worship group opening and closing worship and through pupils writing their own prayer.
- Celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future.
- Will take place in the school hall, outdoors, in class rooms or the church.
- Respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship.

## CONTENT OF DAILY WORSHIP

3.1 As a Church of England school the content of our worship is organised to:

- Follow a half termly, 2 year cycle to cover our 12 Christian Values (See [Appendix C - Worship Planner](#)).
- Cover all the major Christians festivals including Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Pentecost.
- Be rooted in Bible teaching.
- Use the school prayer, Lord's Prayer and other prayers written by pupils and led by the worship group.
- Follow an order of service.

- Be presented using a variety of styles and to include music, story, drama, enthusiastic singing, reflection and reverence in prayer time.

## SPECIAL SERVICES AND VISITORS

- 4.1 We value our links with the staff and congregation of St Augustine's Church. We hold our Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter and Harvest services in church.
- 4.2 The vicar and one of the churchwardens of St. Augustine's Church regularly lead worship and always attend our services in the church.
- 4.3 Where possible we also invite other members of the community in to lead worship.
- 4.4 All visitors are welcome to attend our Collective worship.

## INCLUSION AND WITHDRAWAL

- 5.1 Collective worship is central to the life of the school. However, parents/carers do have a legal right to withdraw their children from all or part of worship.
- 5.2 Before making the decision to exercise that right parents/carers are encouraged to discuss the issues with the principal.
- 5.3 Staff also have the right to withdraw on grounds of conscience but we hope that all staff will feel able to support the Christian ethos of the school by participating in collective worship.

## APPENDIX A – OUR MISSION STATEMENT

### **Building better futures together ...**

#### *...based on Christian Values*

Here at St Augustine's we encourage children to understand our Christian values Generosity, Compassion, Courage, Forgiveness, Friendship, Respect, Thankfulness, Trust, Perseverance, Justice, Service and Truthfulness. We promote Christian values through the celebrations such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest, and through prayer and reflection. Through reflection and prayer we also work to take each child on their own faith journey.

#### *...by nurturing each child's faith journey*

Here at St Augustine's we want all our children to grow in their own faith. For our younger children, linking the major festivals gives a structure within which to deepen their knowledge of their own faith story.

#### *...through enabling "lifelong" learning*

Here at St Augustine's we promote lifelong learning through the progression of key skills, such as reading and writing but also through developing life experiences such as going to the Post Office.

#### *...by promoting high standards*

Here at St Augustine's we promote the very highest academic standards, moving from concrete operations, to the abstract ensuring mental agility based on sound practice. All our children learn their times tables in our Assertive Mentoring Programme and old fashioned life skills for a modern child.

#### *...through nurturing enquiring minds*

Here at St Augustine's we encourage all our children to get a love of learning that takes them beyond the classroom into the wider world. Children are able to investigate and find answers to the questions they have generated. Developing an inquiring mind is a key skill in the promotion of deep learning as well as leading you down new unexplored paths.....

#### *...by valuing ourselves and others*

Here at St Augustine's children are encouraged to go on a path of self-discovery. Children learn how to take responsibility for their own learning and personal development, as well as how to treat and respect others.

#### *...by striving to succeed*

Here at St Augustine's we work together to overcome any obstacles, however challenging, to achieve our goals. We try and try again, building resilience which helps us deal with any disappointments on our journey to success.

#### *...through the celebration of diversity*

Here at St Augustine's we believe that our differences make us stronger. Learning from each other, our traditions and our shared history.

## APPENDIX B – OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES STATEMENT

Building better futures together through.....

**Compassion:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to be empathetic and sympathetic in understanding the needs of those around them.

**Forgiveness:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to forgive the actions of others and reflect on those actions with understanding and tolerance.

**Friendship:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to be the best friend they can be, treating others with love, kindness and thoughtfulness.

**Respect:** Here at St Augustine's children are encouraged to respect others and their environment, treating all with kindness.

**Thankfulness:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to show appreciation to others and celebrate their work. Pupils are encouraged to self-reflect and be thankful through daily prayers.

**Trust:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to trust one another and have a firm belief in the school and its systems, resulting in pupils who are positive and confident in their learning.

**Perseverance:** Here at St Augustine's we work together to overcome any obstacles, however challenging, to achieve our goals. We try and try again, building resilience which helps us deal with any disappointments on our journey to success.

**Courage:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to show courage and bravery through trying new experiences and pushing themselves to achieve their potential.

**Justice:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to promote British and co-operative values and attitudes of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, tolerance of others and justice within the school and wider communities.

**Service:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to understand the idea of service and how they can support the school community, the local community and the international community through charity.

**Truthfulness:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to pursue truthfulness and promote honesty at all times.

**Generosity:** Here at St Augustine's pupils are encouraged to show generosity through kindness and giving, whether this is through time, support or charity.

Here at St Augustine's we encourage pupils to understand and promote our school Christian values. We promote Christian values through the celebrations such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest, and through prayer and reflection. Through reflection and prayer we also work to take each child on their own faith journey.

## Whole School Worship - Yearly Planner

	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
<b>Cycle A</b>	Generosity (Harvest)	Compassion (Christmas)	Courage (Candlemas)	Forgiveness (Lent & Easter)	Friendship (Pentecost)	Respect (Trinity)
<b>Cycle B</b>	Thankfulness (Harvest)	Trust (Advent)	Perseverance (Epiphany)	Justice (Lent & Easter)	Service (Pentecost)	Truthfulness (Trinity)