



SACRED HEART
CATHOLIC PRIMARY
SCHOOL & NURSERY

Prayer and Liturgy Policy

This is our school.

Together we worship; Together we learn; Together we belong.

With the love of God, our dreams and ambitions come true



September 2023

Policy Date: September 2023

Policy Status: Statutory Policy

Awaiting approval by Governing



Body October 2023

Review Cycle: 18months or as required

Next Review Date: January 2025

At Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery we are proud to provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment where every member of our community is valued and respected.

Mission Statement

**‘Together we worship, Together we learn,
Together we belong – with the love of God...
our dreams and ambitions come true.’**

Our broad, balanced, creative curriculum and enrichment activities provide opportunities for everyone to achieve and succeed. Together we take pride in making a positive contribution to our school and the wider community.

This policy should be referred to in conjunction with the curriculum, assessment and teaching and learning policies.

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

“Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment”.



Prayer and Liturgy is a religious and educational experience providing opportunities for our pupils, staff, parents and the school parish community to come together to worship, glorify and honour God.

Prayer and Liturgy in our school, whilst respecting diversity of belief and commitment, will be Catholic in character reflecting the Liturgical tradition of the Church and having Christ at its heart.

Each child will have the opportunity to take part in Prayer and Liturgy each day. Parents may be invited to attend and they have the right to withdraw their child from Prayer and Liturgy.

Aims of Prayer and Liturgy

- Participants will feel valued
- Opportunity given to worship God, consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- To encourage tolerance, respect and responsibility and strive to make our Acts of Worship reflect the whole ethos of the school and thus develop a sense of belonging and community
- To encourage participation and active response through involvement in the presentation of worship or through involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in worship offered.
- To develop attitudes of praise, thanksgiving and contrition and encourage children to become aware of the needs of others.
- To listen to scripture and to contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To reflect on spiritual, moral issues and to respond to and celebrate life

Acts of Worship

Assemblies: Whole school assemblies are led by the Head Teacher on a Monday morning. These assemblies focus on current local and global issues that link together with our British and Gospel Values

Class assemblies also take place throughout the year which focus on current Religious Education topics being taught or that align with the Liturgical Year

Class Prayer and Liturgy: takes place in the classroom on Tuesday and Wednesday. Each class has a focus table (which is themed to coincide with the Liturgical Year) and teachers are encouraged to create a suitable atmosphere. Music, song, candles, objects, prayers, poetry, scripture, stories, books, pictures, etc. can all be used. Class Prayer and Liturgy takes place at different times of the day and are shown on the class timetable.

Key Stage Collective Worship: Each key stage participates in a collective worship every

Gospel Assembly: Whole school Gospel Assembly takes place weekly and is delivered by the R.E. Lead.

Liturgies – These celebrations take place in Church or school and usually celebrate events in the school or Church's life. These liturgies are carefully considered and planned with the intention of fully involving the children in their preparation and participation. Services of Reflection and Reconciliation take place during Lent.

Objectives of Celebrations

Celebrations will:

- Be an enriching experience for children and staff encouraging participation and response from all
- Promote the ethos and values of our school and to encourage a sense of belonging
- Reinforce positive attitudes and values
- Develop community spirit encouraging tolerance, respect and responsibility to all members of the school community
- Be relevant and appropriate to the needs of our children to enable them to respond to and celebrate life.
- Provide opportunities for individual reflection and silent prayer
- Present occasions when there will be reflection of spiritual and moral issues
- Encourage reflection of personal beliefs and contemplation of the mystery of God
- Contribute to the liturgical development of the children.

Sacramental Preparation

Children receive First Holy Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation in Year 4. Preparation of the children is done through the Parish Programme led by Fr and the catechists. This programme has enriched the partnership between home, school and parish. The children with the support of their families and school are well prepared for these important occasions.

Equal Opportunities

Although our Prayer and Liturgy will reflect the tradition of the Catholic Faith, we expect our children to show respect for other Faith and Cultural Acts of Worship.

Children with additional educational needs will take part in Prayer and Liturgy in their own classes. They will be allowed to learn formal prayers at their own pace and level of ability. Participation in worship will be appropriate to their need.

At Sacred Heart we seek to enhance our pupils' spiritual education and to encourage our children to develop attitudes of praise and reverence. We allow their natural

instincts for awe and wonder to be realised and developed. We strive to proclaim the Christian message and live it alongside our children, their families, and our school and parish community.

Monitoring

The R.E. Lead will:

Monitor collective worship throughout the school twice a year and feedback to staff. Appropriate training will be arranged from the Archdiocese as and when necessary.

Resources

A range of resources are available for staff and are held in the collective worship room. The RE lead will ensure that resources are updated and accessible.

Planning

Prayer and Liturgy themes are shared with staff for each academic year. Themes are in line with the Liturgical Year and Religious events. All staff also have access to 'TenTen' and can take themes for the basis of Prayer and Liturgy from this resource. Staff in each key phase plan alternative weeks' sessions and share with the key phase partner.