

# Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery



## Collective Worship Policy

# **SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT**

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

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**This is our school**

Together we worship  
Together we learn  
Together we belong

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

Date ratified by Governors: Sept 2019

Date for renewal: Sept 2021

As a catholic school the foundation of all we do is based upon Christ and his gospel values. The values that we embrace underpin every aspect of school life. These are:

**Tolerance and Respect**- Relationships based on equality, trust and sincerity  
**Integrity and Honesty** -Decisions and actions based on Christian values-'Doing the right thing'

**Joy and Happiness** -Celebrating the gifts, skills and talents of all in our school community

**Peace and Forgiveness**- Always being willing to say sorry and rebuild a broken relationship

**Friendship and Nurturing**- High expectations for all in learning and behaviour

**Courage and Aspire**- Personal drive and passion inspiring all

**Creativity and Democracy**- Innovative approaches used to enhance learning and real opportunities for pupil voice

**Collective Worship** 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.

Collective Worship 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 Collective Worship each day. Parents may be invited to attend and they have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship.

#### **Aims of Collective Worship.**

- 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** are intended to be age and needs appropriate. They take four key forms.

**Daily Worship** – these are usually class gatherings. Each class has a focus table 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 collective worships take place at different times of the day and are shown on the class timetable. At the end of each topic in ***Come & See*** there is a Rejoice collective worship. Children are encouraged and supported to plan and lead some collective worship as they progress through the school.

Each key stage participates in a collective worship every Monday led by staff and the Head teacher leads a Gospel assembly every Tuesday. Class collective worship takes place on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays. The Wednesday Word is used each Wednesday in classes.

Collective worship takes place in the hall, class or collective worship room.

**Assemblies/presentations** – Key Stage assemblies led by the head teacher often take place in the school halls. Class assemblies also take place throughout the year often as the Rejoice part of the ***Come & See*** topic. Parents, governors, parishioners and clergy are invited to attend.

**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.

**Staff reflections** – these take place at the beginning of topics (***Come and see for yourself***) and at the start of Advent and Lent

## **Objectives**

### **Celebrations will**

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 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 Collective Worship 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 Collective Worship 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 and evaluation**

The R.E. co-ordinator will:

Monitor collective worship throughout the school once a year and feedback to staff.

### **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.