

St Thomas' Church of England Junior and Infant School.

Collective Worship Policy.

A Journey In Faith, Arriving With Hope.

St Thomas Church of England Junior and Infant School is a Voluntary Aided School in the Diocese of Liverpool.

St Thomas' foundations are core Christian values allowing the children to feel happy, supported and cared for. These are: Love Hope Peace and Joy.

Collective Worship is key to the life of the school and helps to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils, preparing them for the rest of their lives. The main emphasis is on Christian belief, the life of Jesus and the teachings of Jesus. Collective Worship takes place every day for all children.

Mission Statement and Aims.

Our mission statement **A Journey In faith, Arriving With Hope** forms the basis of our policies and practice. Collective Worship at St Thomas' supports the moral and spiritual development of our children, reinforcing positive attitudes and gospel values.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is delivered by all Senior Leaders in school. In addition to this class teachers deliver class acts of Worship each week. Worship is also delivered by the Team Rectors for Golborne and Lowton. Our own pupils (Worship Warriors) lead acts of Worship also. Each class leads their own act of Worship during the academic year.

Collective Worship is held for the whole school, Key Stages and individual classes. All pupils have an act of Worship each day. Worship includes the following opportunities/ experiences

- Listening to music
- Singing
- Time for reflection and stillness
- Time for prayer
- Understanding Bible stories told in different ways
- Understanding the life of Jesus
- Taking part in key Anglican celebrations such as Harvest, Advent, Lent, Easter and Pentecost.
- Developing an understanding of the Trinity
- The Eucharist service

Worship is shared with pupils, staff and the whole school community. Parents attend class acts of Worship and are invited to all services which take place in St Thomas' Church. Members of the church congregation are always welcome to attend acts of Worship held in school. School Governors are able to attend Worship also.

Planning Collective Worship

Our core values for St Thomas' School are Love, Hope, Peace and Joy. In addition to these we have an additional 6 values allowing us to have a monthly focus during the academic year. The monthly value plus key festivals form the focus for Collective Worship.

A Worship overview is planned by the Headteacher to ensure full coverage through all aspects of Worship. This is analysed and evaluated by leaders, Governors and pupils.

Right of Withdrawal

We invite all children to attend Collective Worship, however parents have the right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship.

Date of Policy: September 2024

Date of Renewal: September 2025