

## **Ethos Statement**

Church in Wales schools are designated through the Religious Character of Schools (Designation Procedure) 1998, as having a religious character.

The following ethos statement has been adopted by all Church in Wales schools:

***Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church in Wales and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.***

***The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils***

## **Mission Statement**

At All Saints Church in Wales Primary School we aim to provide a stable, caring community where children know that they are loved, can feel confident and secure and where they can share in the adventure of growing up as part of our school family.

We aim to:

- provide opportunities for pupils to reflect upon their own beliefs
- promote tolerance, empathy and understanding of religions, cultures and moral issues of our communities and the wider world.
- share joy, sorrow and a deeper understanding of God's love.
- place an emphasis on loyalty to friends and to try to encourage a sense of commitment and belonging. Above all our children are encouraged to learn to live and work together in harmony, so that they grow up aware of the wonder of life and its creator.



## **Collective Worship Policy**

Collective worship is part of the whole school curriculum which is intended to promote the *'Spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils and of society'* and prepare pupils *'for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life'*. (1988 ERA)

The 1988 Act lays down a number of requirements on school worship. These include:

1. There will be a daily act of worship for all pupils at the school. This can be at any time of the day and does not have to be a gathering of the whole school together.
2. Parents may withdraw their children from acts of worship. (1988 Education Reform Act 6(1) and 9(3). Children withdrawn from worship will be supervised.
3. Teachers who are employed under a National Society Contract which includes clause 8a on religious education and clause 8b on 'respecting the character of the foundation' are expected to attend Worship.
4. Most acts of worship are to be *'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'*.
5. The arrangements for collective worship are made by the Governing Body after consultation with the Head Teacher. It is the duty of the Governing Body to make the necessary arrangements, within the law, for the act of worship to be consistent with the purpose of the school. This will be in accordance with the Trust Deed.
6. The daily responsibility for worship arrangements lies with the Head Teacher after consultation with the Governing Body.
7. The act of worship is not designated as curriculum time under regulations and should not be subsumed into any part of the curriculum.

### **Aim of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship at All Saints' Church in Wales Primary School will emphasise:

- A sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- An awareness of our Christian heritage.
- A sense of pattern, order and purpose.
- An awareness of, and relationship with the natural world.

- An awareness of and relationship with others as feeling, thinking persons.
- An awareness of community - its demands and rituals.
- An awareness of achievement, celebration and joy.
- An awareness of loss, sadness and suffering.
- An awareness that life involves choices, between good and bad, right and wrong.

**Appropriateness**

- Collective Worship in the school will be appropriate to its Church in Wales foundation and will be firmly based on Christian principles.
- Collective Worship will foster an attitude of tolerance and understanding of other faith and beliefs as appropriate.
- Collective Worship will take into account the ages of the pupils, their aptitudes and family backgrounds.
- Collective Worship for children in the Early Years will use appropriate language and concepts to their age.
- Collective Worship for older children will use material that will challenge their perceptions of the world.
- Collective Worship in the school will be sensitive for those children whose faith is not Christian.
- Arrangements for Collective Worship  
(See timetables)
- Collective Worship will normally take place in the School Hall.
- Staff and pupils will assemble together and the pupils will normally sit in year groups.

Monday	Whole-school Hymn practice and prayers.
Tuesday	The Head Teacher/ Deputy Head Teacher will lead Collective worship. Class assemblies are built in to the rota by the Deputy Head Teacher.
Wednesday	Infants/Early Years and Juniors alternate between Key stage worship and Circle Time in individual classes every other week
Thursday	The Vicar or other visiting clergy will lead collective worship on Thursday. There is also a celebration of achievements of the week.
Friday	Rota for staff leading whole-school worship .

- A variety of styles and methods are utilised during collective worship: drama, storytelling, art, music, etc. A Welsh flavour is also promoted where appropriate.
- Lunchtime commences with the saying of prayer.
- The school day will end with the saying of a prayer.
- The school celebrates the sharing of Eucharist once a term as a special way to close a term.

### **Funding**

A budget will be allocated by the Governing Body for the provision of worship resources, song books, artefacts, worship focus etc.

### **Monitoring**

The impact of Collective Worship on all learners will be discussed as part of the school's Self-Evaluation process. In particular the staff and Governing Body will consider:

- How important is worship in the life of the school and how is this demonstrated?
- What are the learners' attitudes to collective worship?
- To what extent do learners and staff of all faiths derive inspiration, spiritual growth and affirmation from worship?
- How well does collective worship develop learners' understanding of Anglican faith and practice?
- How effectively does collective worship develop the sense of a Christian community in action?
- A timetable for acts of collective worship and themes is kept in a file in the Head Teacher's office and displayed in the staffroom.
- Collective worship is an annual item on the agenda of the Governing Body and for a staff meeting. Discussion and evaluation takes place at these meetings.
- Diocesan resources are called upon to maintain resources etc.

### **Themes**

Collective worship will be based upon the Christian year and will recognise the seasons, festivals and major Saints days. Collective worship will also recognise important festivals represented by other faiths within the County Borough.

See wheel for themes for the year.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the staff and Governing Body.

**Autumn Term**

**Saints :**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. Gregory the Great  
21<sup>st</sup> Sept. St.Matthew  
25<sup>th</sup> Sept. St.Cadoc  
29<sup>th</sup> Sept. St.Michael and All Angels  
4<sup>th</sup> Oct. St.Francis  
18<sup>th</sup> Oct. St.Luke  
28<sup>th</sup> Oct. Sts. Simon / Jude  
1<sup>st</sup> Nov. All Saints  
25<sup>th</sup> Nov. St. Catherine  
30<sup>th</sup> Nov. St.Andrew  
6<sup>th</sup> Dec. St.Nicholas  
21<sup>st</sup> Dec. St.Thomas  
26<sup>th</sup> Dec. St.Stephen  
27<sup>th</sup> Dec. St.John

**Christian festivals:**

Harvest,  
All Souls/All Saints  
Advent / Christmas

**Other faiths:**

Divali  
Hannukah

**Other themes:**

New year / new start  
Faith / hope  
Friends / helpers  
Thanksgiving / harvest  
Generosity / sharing  
Caring / aid agencies  
Service / unselfishness  
War / peace  
Suffering / patience  
Remembrance Day,

**Bible stories:**

Old Testament

## **Spring term**

### **Saints:**

25<sup>th</sup> Jan. Conversion of St. Paul  
14<sup>th</sup> Feb. St. Valentine  
24<sup>th</sup> Feb. St. Matthias  
1<sup>st</sup> March St. David  
17<sup>th</sup> March St. Patrick  
19<sup>th</sup> March St. Joseph  
25<sup>th</sup> March Lady Day - Annunciation  
29<sup>th</sup> March Sts. Gwynllyw / Gwladys  
23<sup>rd</sup> April St. George  
25<sup>th</sup> April St. Mark

### **Christian Festivals:**

Epiphany  
Lent  
Candlemas  
Easter

### **Other faiths:**

Ramadan  
Eid

### **Other themes:**

New year / promises  
Travellers / gifts  
Conscience / duty  
Talents / skills  
Journeys / the future  
Temptation / consideration  
Protecting / guarding  
Teaching / guiding  
Homes / security  
Mothering Sunday

### **Bible stories:**

Parables and life of Jesus

## **Summer term**

### **Saints:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> May Sts. Philip / James
- 11<sup>th</sup> June St. Barnabus
- 24<sup>th</sup> June birth of John the Baptist
- 29<sup>th</sup> June St.Peter / St.Paul
- 15<sup>th</sup> July St.Swithin
- 25<sup>th</sup> July St.James
- 31<sup>st</sup> July St.Joseph of Arimathea
- 24<sup>th</sup> August St. Bartholomew

### **Christian festivals:**

- Rogation
- Ascension
- Pentecost
- Transfiguration

### **Other faiths:**

- Sikh - Basaiki

### **Other themes:**

- Confidence / assurance
- Celebration/ gifts
- Tolerance / humility
- Light / colour
- Explorers / discovery
- Secrets / the unknown
- Pleasure /happiness
- Sorrow / worry
- The Earth / nature
- Patience / reliability
- Loyalty / doing your best
- Beauty / art

### **Bible stories:**

- Miracles of Jesus

## **Worship Format**

For themes please see 'Themes Wheel'

- Reflective/ spiritual music to be played whilst children come into the hall
- 'May the Lord be with you'
- Opening prayer – child to lead
- Lighting of the candle
- Opening hymn/ song
- Story/ readings/ activity linked to theme, feast or Saints' day.
- Linked prayer or The Lord's Prayer
- Prayer of the week (Thursday).
- Time of reflection
- Sharing of children's personal prayers and put out candles as they do so to send their special prayer to God.
- Dismiss quietly class by class with reflective/ spiritual music to be played