



ST LEONARD'S CE PRIMARY ACADEMY
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 Reg Office: As above
 Company Reg No. 07807811
 Head Teacher: Nicola Mills BEd (Hons)



St Leonard's CE Primary Academy Collective Worship Policy 2017-19

This policy should be taken and used as part of St Leonard's Church of England Primary Academy's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, instrument of government aims, and values of a Church of England Academy. St Leonard's is a Church of England Primary Academy which celebrates a love of God and puts the Christian ethos at the centre of all that it does.

Aims:

- to provide an opportunity for the children to worship God
- to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- to enable children to explore their own beliefs
- to encourage participation and response
- to develop in children a sense of community spirit
- to promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes
- to provide the children with opportunities to reflect

2 Collective Worship

- 2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship involves all members of the academy coming together and we expect everyone to take an active part in the process, unless there are specific religious grounds not to.
- 2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we usually base our Collective Worship on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However, we also conduct our Collective Worship in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.
- 2.3 Whilst the majority of Acts of Worship in our academy are Christian, we also hold Collective Acts of Worship that reflect other religious traditions represented in the school and the wider community.

3 Organisation of Collective Worship

- 3.1 We hold at least three daily acts of Collective Worship in our academy.



Living and Learning Together with God's Help



- 3.2 We conduct Collective Worship in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that Collective Worship time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.
- 3.3 The Head Teacher or other members of staff usually conduct Collective Worship, but local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups also conduct them on a regular basis.
- 3.4 We take the themes of our Collective Worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and we often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. We plan our Collective Worship as part of a series of themes (taken from 'Values for Life') well in advance of the day they take place.
- 3.5 Our Monday Collective Worship reflects the achievements and learning of the children; this offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school; they play an important part in promoting the ethos of the academy, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised. St Leonard's Academy is a successful academy and we celebrate the successes of all the children here.
- 3.6 We welcome governors' attendance at our Collective Worship at any time.

4 Right of Withdrawal

- 4.1 We expect all children to attend Collective Worship. However, any parent/carer can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the academy will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents/carers do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.
- 4.2 The Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from Collective Worship.

5 Monitoring and Review

- 5.1 It is the role of a named school governor with responsibility for Religious Education and Collective Worship to monitor the policy and practice of Collective Worship and feedback to the governing body.

Appendix 1: Collective Worship

- Monday - Whole School Achievement led by the Head Teacher
- Tuesday - Whole School led by RE/Collective Worship Co-ordinator or visiting Clergy/Community
- Wednesday - Whole School Hymn Practice led by Music Co-ordinator
- Thursday - Separate Infant and Junior Collective Worship led by School Staff (rota)
- Friday - Collective Worship in classrooms led by Individual Teacher/Pupil led