



# St Michael's C E Primary

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP Policy

*'Achieving and growing together'*

**"We are the seeds. Our school is the good ground which provides everyone with all they need to grow and achieve." (Our children)**

St Michael's is a Church of England Primary School built on distinctive Christian Values at the very heart of its community.

*We will provide:*

- a welcoming, inclusive school with strong relationships across our community, that celebrates diversity;
- excellent teaching with a nurturing approach, guiding first steps to next steps;
- an inspirational and challenging curriculum which ignites curiosity, encourages resilience and grows confidence so children become lifelong learners;
- a happy, safe and stimulating environment in which children can achieve their full potential;

So that our children will flourish in all they do and become good citizens

**"And some seed fell on good ground. This seed grew and made 100 times more grain." (Luke 8:8)**

# 1.1 Collective Worship Policy

## 1.2 Our Vision

‘Achieving and growing together’

**“And some seed fell on good ground. This seed grew and made 100 times more grain.”**  
(Luke 8:8)

We choose **achieving and growing together** as our vision because we want to demonstrate the importance of St Michael’s in helping children grow, develop and be the best they can be. We want all members of our school community to achieve and grow using our core values of **respect** and **perseverance**.

### 1.2.1 Core Principles

*We will provide:*

- a welcoming, inclusive school with strong relationships across our community, that celebrates diversity;
- excellent teaching with a nurturing approach, guiding first steps to next steps;
- an inspirational and challenging curriculum which ignites curiosity, encourages resilience and grows confidence so children become lifelong learners;
- a happy, safe and stimulating environment in which children can achieve their full potential;

### 1.2.2 Rationale

The Trust Deed and school ethos statement inform the policy and practice of collective worship in St Michael’s CE Primary School. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation values and ethos of the school.

Worship is central to the life and purposes of our school and will reflect the Christian understanding of God as Trinity. This will include belief in God the source of all being and life, belief in Jesus who reveals God’s love by his life, death and resurrection and belief in the Holy Spirit who makes the presence of Jesus known in the world.

### 1.2.3 Aims

Through collective worship in our school we aim to:

- Provide an experience of worship that will allow children to respond to the presence, power and peace of God.
- Introduce children to Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the church year.
- Explore a variety of ways of praying and introduce children to some well-known Christian prayers, e.g. Lord’s Prayer.
- Strengthen and support the school community giving expression to and reaffirming the Christian values of the school.

- Celebrate the gifts that each child brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God.
- Encourage children to reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and to respond to the wonder and mystery of the world around them.
- Foster a concern for others within the school and wider world.
- Foster an appreciation of the created world and an awareness of our responsibility for it.

## 1.2.4 Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils which takes account of their age and aptitude (Education Reform Act 1988). It goes on to state that it should be *‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’*. As a Church of England School, collective worship will reflect the Anglican status and build on the rich, lived diversity of Anglican tradition. Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

## 1.3 Elements of Worship

At St Michael’s we aim that collective worship will be inclusive, invitational and inspiring.

**Inclusive** – At St Michael’s, worship involves everyone and is fully accessible to all. Pupils, staff and parents may come from a variety of faiths or from non. Worship gives everyone the opportunity to think and ask questions. The language and vocabulary used avoids assuming faith all those participating. Inclusive worship all means wide involvement in the planning and delivery including staff and pupils. We seek meaningful contributions from all.

**Invitational** – At St Michael’s there is no compulsion to ‘do’ anything. Worship provides an opportunity to think and engage. Pupils are invited to pray if they wish to with phrases such as ‘you are invited to say Amen at the end to make this prayer your own.’ Music is drawn from a variety of sources to set the tone and provide a suitable atmosphere. Children learn songs of thanks and praise as well as to celebrate parts of the church year.

**Inspiring** – Everyone who encounters worship at St Michael’s should expect it to be inspirational. It enables pupils and adults to think about ‘big questions’ and provides opportunities for spiritual development. Worship can motivate action such as promoting courageous advocacy. It also makes people think searchingly about their beliefs and convictions supporting everyone to have a strong moral compass.

### 1.3.1 The Daily Act of Worship

Worship is held at 10.30am every day and lasts fifteen minutes. We hold worship every day either together or in class, emphasising the unity of the school. We invite speakers from a variety of backgrounds including from our local church and the Open the Book team. Children are encouraged to lead worship regularly following the weekly theme.

Worship is held in the hall, where there is a wooden cross as a focal point and candles are lit to represent the Trinity at the start of each worship. We have runners on the worship table in liturgical colours (see appendix), mirroring the church year. Music is played as children enter and leave the hall to encourage an atmosphere of reflection. The Lord’s Prayer is recited regularly, along with our school prayer. A wide range of approaches are used in worship, including drama, discussion, reflection, reading, singing and prayer.

The children also attend services in Church each year including eucharist, Harvest and Easter services.

### 1.3.2 Themes

We have the values of RESPECT and PERSEVERANCE that form the basis of our worship and wider school life:



Each week we have a theme for worship which is then promoted throughout the school. Care is taken to ensure that understanding of each value is rooted in the Bible and the example of Jesus.

We have added in significant dates in the Christian year and days of particular importance such as Remembrance Day. We are also able to respond to local, national or world events (or a need from the children), that merit reflection and prayers.

A range of resources are available to all staff, including the GERS planning document which helps to plan each worship (see appendix). Classes all have a special worship folder which is used for responses and evaluations (see appendix)

### 1.3.3 Role of the Co-ordinator

The co-ordinator is responsible for supporting staff in their planning of worship where necessary. The co-ordinator is also responsible for organising and replenishing resources and for monitoring all aspects of worship within the school.

### 1.3.4 Evaluation of Worship

The co-ordinator monitors whole school and class acts of worship throughout the year. We use the Swedish method for evaluations which each class hold weekly. This is then discussed regularly and worship adapted accordingly.

## 1.4Appendix

### *Liturgical colours*

#### **White:**

- From Christmas Day to the Presentation at the Temple (2nd Feb)
- From Easter Day to the eve of Pentecost.

#### **Red:**

- Holy week; Pentecost; All Saint's Day (1st Nov) to the beginning of Advent.

#### **Purple:**

- Advent; Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday

#### **Green:**

- From the Presentation (2nd Feb) to Shrove Tuesday; from Pentecost to All Saint's Eve (31st Oct)

In chronological order:

White/Gold 25th Dec – 2nd Feb

Green 2nd Feb – Shrove Tuesday

Purple Ash Wednesday – Palm Sunday (Lent)

Red Holy Week

White/Gold Easter Day – Pentecost

Red Pentecost

Green Pentecost – 31st Oct

Red 1st November – Advent

Purple Advent – 24th December

# GERS Planning

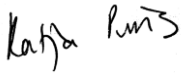
|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Gather</b>  | <i>Purple for preparation - Create a feeling of expectation.</i>  |
| <b>Engage</b>  | <i>Green for growth – growth in understanding of the Christian faith and a ‘green light’ to the possibility of encounter with God.</i>              |
| <b>Respond</b> | <i>Gold and white to celebrate God’s love – all the good things we’re learning about ourselves, each other, our world and the God who loves us.</i> |
| <b>Send</b>    | <i>Red: colours of saints and Pentecost – Christians are sent out in the power of God’s spirit to live and work for him.</i>                        |

## Worship Evaluation “Swedish method”:

|     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| KS1 | 🌀 <b>Wow</b> – What things stand out to you in this passage?                  |  |
|     | ? <b>Question</b> – what things don't you understand?                         |  |
|     | ! <b>Surprise</b> – what things in the passage surprise you?                  |  |
| KS2 | ☑ <b>That's right!</b> – What things in the passage do you agree with?        |  |
|     | ☒ <b>What?!</b> – What things in the passage do you find hard, don't like?    |  |
|     | 📖 <b>Deja – vu</b> – have you read something like this in the bible before?   |  |
| All | ⇒ <b>That's ME</b> – can you name something like it from your own experience? |  |
|     | 👤 ⇄ 👤 <b>Action</b> – what are you going to do as a result of this passage?   |  |
|     | ↓ <b>Share</b> – what can you share with someone else from this passage?      |  |

This policy has been approved by the Governing Body and Head teacher of St. Michael's C of E Primary School.

Chair of Governors ....

Signed: ...  .....

Print Name: ... .. Katja Purvis.....

Date: ...01/11/2022... ..

Head Teacher

Signed: .....  .....

Print name:.....GAVIN JOHNSTON.....

Date: .....01/11/2022.....

REVIEW DATE ...November 2025... ..