

St. Peter's CE Primary, Farnworth



# Collective Worship Policy

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**Worship leads:** L.Williams/J.Scott/J.Cox

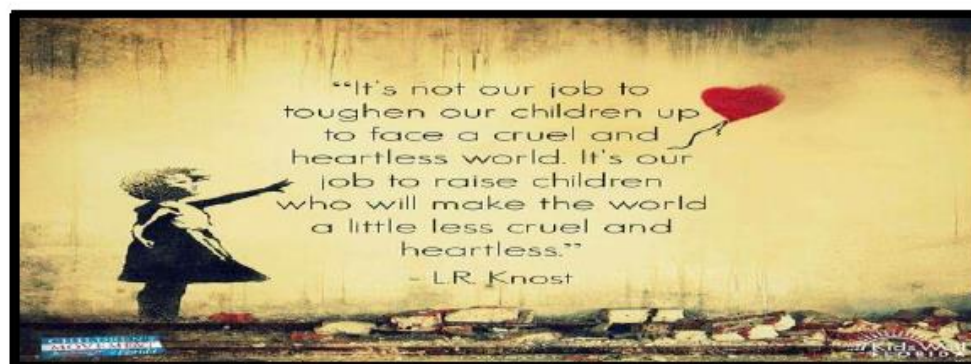


## Statement of intent

### What is our vision?

As teachers we are often charged with the task of preparing our children for their future. At St. Peter's we think a little differently, and rather than prepare our children for a future that is imposed upon them, we aim to give them the skills necessary to create the future that they perceive for themselves.

Today is the tomorrow of yesterday. By controlling today, we are creating the future of tomorrow.



Our vision is to develop our children to enable them to create the future they aspire for themselves, inspired by God, influenced by the teachings of Jesus and underpinned by Christian Values; rooted in The Bible and the word of God.

Our intention is that our children will contribute to and prosper in society, bringing God's plan for them to fruition.

**“For I know the plans I have for you”, declares the Lord “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11**

Our school purpose is to signal a route to a life that many don't think possible! We aim to maximise social mobility, with God's support & guidance!

Our overall vision is for our children to be able to

## **“Learn, Sparkle & Shine...”**

Develop the elements of wisdom, dignity, hope and community.

### WISDOM

#### Learn



**Knowing** more today than I did yesterday and more tomorrow than I do today!

Allow for the development of wisdom, knowledge and skills.

### DIGNITY, HOPE

#### Sparkle



Sparkling is **knowing who I am,**  
**what I love** and **being proud to be me.**

Allow for the development of individuality; character development, hope, aspiration, courageous advocacy.

### COMMUNITY

#### Shine



**Sharing** kindness, love and joy with other people.

Allow for the development of community spirit – living well together.



**In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.**

**Matthew 5:16**

**“Learn, Sparkle & Shine...”**





What does “**Learn, Sparkle & Shine...**” mean?



Our school demographics and context require that we provide a curriculum that;

- promotes high aspiration (**learn**),
- encourages positive attitudes, resilience and strong mental health (**sparkle**) and,
- develops positive citizens with strong community (Christian and British) values (**shine**).

**Our intention is to provide this curriculum, underpinned by Christian Values; rooted in The Bible and the word of God.**

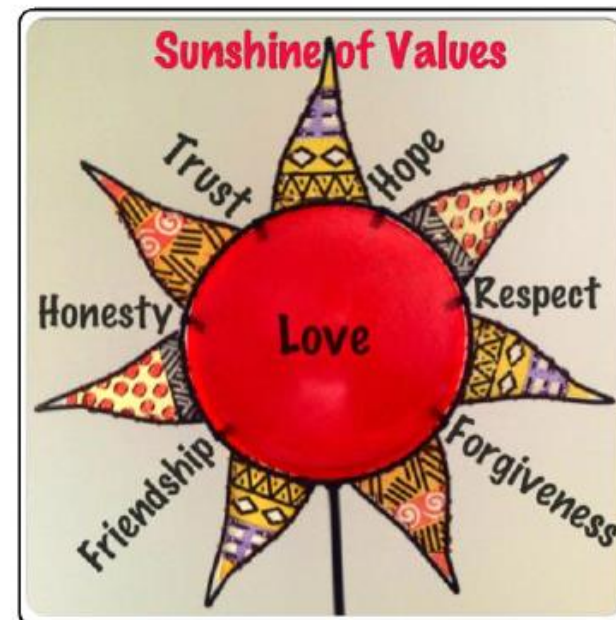
St. Peter's C.E. Farnworth

I have come to the frightening conclusion that I am the decisive element in the classroom,  
It is my daily mood that makes the weather.

As a teacher I possess a tremendous power to make a child's life miserable or joyous.  
I can be a tool of torture or an instrument of inspiration.  
I can humiliate or humour, hurt or heal.

In all situations it is my response that decides whether a crisis will be escalated or de-escalated, and  
A child humanised or de-humanised.

Dr Haim Ginott



**“Where our children enter our classrooms neither impresses nor depresses us; we simply expect our children to know that they come to school to work hard and learn, growing to know and understand more through each day they spend walking down Progress Ave with us.”**

| <p><b>Our vision</b><br/><b>Our children will....</b></p>                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b>Our beliefs and values.</b><br/><b>Why?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p><b>Our strategy</b><br/><b>What do we intend to do?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p><b>Our strategy</b><br/><b>What will you see?</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Learn</b><br/>Allow for the development of wisdom, knowledge and skills.</p>                                                    | <p>We believe ability is a consequence of what happens in our classrooms not a cause!<br/>We believe inherited traits are only one part of the story of where we may end up. The environment created in our classrooms, the culture of hard work and determination that we encourage, the recognition that we are all able to increase our knowledge through learning, we believe, has an equally valid impact on our future success. <b>(Learn)</b></p> | <p>Develop learners who recognise their own learning goals, aspirations and the role they play in determining their own destiny. <b>(Learn)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the incremental learning theory – growth mindset approach</li> <li>Reward effort and attribute success to hard work and determination</li> </ul> | <p><b>Visible consistency-</b> The aim of visible consistency is to ensure that all staff and pupils receive the same messages regarding expectation of conduct, behaviour and work ethic thus ensuring a safe environment in which effective teaching and learning can take place and risks can be taken.</p>                                       |
| <p><b>Sparkle</b><br/>Allow for the development of individuality; character development, hope, aspiration, courageous advocacy.</p>  | <p>We believe that engaging in a rich and varied curriculum will provide our children with an opportunity to develop a positive attitude to learning and an environment in which they can flourish and thrive. <b>(Sparkle)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p>Provide a curriculum that allows for a wide range of opportunities to be promoted and excellent outcomes achieved, across a wide range of areas. <b>(Sparkle)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                            | <p><b>Visible collaboration-</b> The aim of visible collaboration is to ensure that children receive the same experiences across year groups and that staff are able to share their expertise and strengths so as to learn from each other.</p>                                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Shine</b><br/>Allow for the development of community spirit – living well together.</p>                                       | <p>We believe that by using the word of God and the example of Jesus, alongside Christian Values to underpin our work, children will be able to spread positive attitudes and shine as a beacon in society. <b>(Shine)</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p>Promote a community of kind, respectful Christian learners, with an underlying value of hope for their own future and that of the wider extended community; underpinned by the word of God and the example of Jesus, alongside Christian and British Values. <b>(Shine)</b></p>                                                                  | <p><b>Visible challenge-</b> The aim of visible challenge is to support our growth mindset philosophy and recognises that learning occurs when staff and pupils are given the opportunity to go beyond their comfort zone.</p> <p><b>Visible creativity-</b> The aim of visible creativity is to inspire a love of learning and deepen thinking.</p> |

## **Collective Worship Policy- St Peter's CE Primary School**

St. Peter's is a voluntary aided Church of England primary school within the Parish of Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough. At our school, assembly is a collective act of worship. We believe that this time for worship is a crucial part of the school day and is a focus of our life and work. It is a time of relationship with God and with each other. It encourages and supports each person in their spiritual journey and reflects the values and ethos in the school's mission statement. It is essential to the spiritual life of all members of our school community.

There are well-established links with the parish, through the involvement of the clergy, church services, community activities and visits. Maintaining this liaison continues to be a priority and is an important aspect of the life of the school.

At St. Peter's we aim to provide a comfortable, worshipful atmosphere which will:

- allow the children the freedom and security to express and explore their own beliefs and feelings.
- provide time for reflection and thought which will contribute both to the moral and spiritual development of the children.
- nurture the children in their own spiritual journey and in their exploration of the ultimate questions of life.
- encourage an understanding of what a Christian community believes and practises
- give pupils a repertoire of prayers to take into adult life.
- celebrate together the Christian festivals within the church's year.
- provide a distinctive and identifiable act of worship which could be a stimulus for further work to be carried out in the classroom environment at a level appropriate to the needs and understanding of the children.
- follow a basic framework through a series of themes, derived from combination of ideas from the church year, school events, current issues in their environment/work events.
- provide opportunities for the children to participate in collective worship by leading and choosing material.
- reflect on and observe, a range of major festivals from other World Faiths

## Organisation

Collective worship is timetabled each day. Our worship is led by members of the SLT within the school and the clergy within the team parish.

**Monday** In class worship- Picture News

**Tuesday** Half of school (on rotation weekly) led by head teacher (or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, where the head is unavailable)  
In class worship other half of school (one week Blue classes, following week Green classes)

**Wednesday** Half of school (on rotation weekly) led by the clergy/ church leaders, wherever possible, or the SLT.  
In class worship other half of school (one week Blue classes, following week Green classes)

**Thursday** Half of school (on rotation weekly) led by head teacher (or a member of the Senior Leadership Team, where the head is unavailable)  
**In class worship other half of school** (one week Blue classes, following week Green classes)

**Friday** Hymn Practice or Class assembly for parents and friends - this is not always linked to the theme, but is a celebration of the children's work which includes their own ideas and thoughts

- Each class leads a class assembly during the academic year. Parents, friends and family are invited to the assembly and to stay after for a friendly chat and coffee. The collective worship varies in content. They are often based on the curriculum work which incorporate personal, social, moral, spiritual issues and include children's work. The assembly is led by the children and contains a balance of hymns, prayers, drama, stories and poems.
- All staff in school, from either the blue classes or the green, attend collective worship on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Staff are encouraged to join the worship on the remaining days - there are always representatives from each class in attendance.
- Prayers are said before lunch, and in class at the end of each school day.
- Assemblies provide the opportunity to share and celebrate events and achievements both at school and at home.

## Environment for Worship

Collective acts of worship are held in either the school hall, the classroom or the studio. Care is taken to ensure the children have enough room and are able to sit comfortably. Quiet music from our composer of the half term, is played as the children enter and leave the hall. This changes weekly to give children the chance to listen, learn and reflect on the content and the mood of the music. There is also a worship table set at the front, as a focal point for the children during the worship. The items displayed on the table, include the Christian symbols: cross, candles, Bible and prayer. The staff sit around the edge of the hall usually close to their own class and will participate where appropriate. At St. Peter's worship is for all. The teachers supervise the children and encourage their attention and

participation in the collective worship. The Shine Team sit at the front of the hall and contribute to worship by saying the closing prayer.

### **Format for Worship**

Worship at St. Peter's has an established but flexible format to give the children the opportunity to 'follow' the worship and be aware of what is to come; e.g. quiet music, hymn, story discussion etc., prayer, quiet time, children leave the hall. The composer of the half term is displayed with music changing weekly linked to the composer.

### **Shine Team**

The Shine Team consists of a small number of pupils from Years 4-6 and represent the 'Shine' element of the school motto. They meet weekly and share Bible stories; complete activities linked to Christian Values and plan ways in which they contribute to worship. During morning worship, the Shine Team sit at the front as role models, and share prayers they have written. They also lead worship each half term, linked to the whole school theme.

## **Records of Collective Worship**

### **Planning**

The assemblies follow a theme identified on the termly planner of events, which is discussed by the staff in staff meetings and decided in consultation with the subject leader, SLT and Head Teacher. This information is accessed via the school's network.

Theme days, International days and festivals from other faiths are planned into worship. Each class has a Reflection and Response Book to evidence worship and a whole school Reflection book is kept outside the Headteacher's office.

### **Resources**

There are also assemblies available on line through many websites.

Picture News is used for in class worship alongside PPT ideas for international and world faith days.

The Headteacher keeps an array of worship resources in the office.

INSET is available both through the LEA and through the Diocese.

### **Reflection Books**

Each class has their own reflection book, which is specifically for the children's reflections of worship. These are kept on display in the worship areas, in classrooms.

### **Diocese**

The school's policy for collective worship is in line with the Manchester Diocesan policy on Worship.

### **Parental Rights of Withdrawal**

At St. Peter's, we believe that worship is a vital part of the education we offer to our children and that this is an essential part of the child's growth and development. Because of this any parent considering taking this option is requested to discuss their position with the Head Teacher.

(See MDBE Legal Framework)



## Appendix 1

### Guidance for Teachers

Information from Manchester Diocese

#### Aims for Worship

The following are starters for discussion with staff or governors to work towards a statement tailored to your own particular circumstances.

1. Contribute to pupils spiritual development, e.g.
  - Experience what worship is and what people do when they worship
  - Develop ability to meditate and use silence creatively
  - Reflect on and think more deeply about important issues
  - Foster a sense of awe and wonder at creation
  - Celebrate all that is of value in life - truth, love, goodness, beauty etc.
  - Explore mystery and important questions about life and creation, including the dark side of life, e.g. suffering, loss, death and evil.
  - Express their concerns, hopes joys etc.
  - Build up their relationship with God.
2. To introduce pupils to the worship of the Church of England
  - Learn the important and famous prayers of Christianity
  - Learn appropriate responses and forms of prayer
  - Give pupils a repertoire of prayers to take into adult life
3. Gain in knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith, e.g.
  - Explore Christian beliefs about God.
  - Learn about the place and significance of the Bible
  - Learn about the significance of Jesus
  - Explore the nature of God as revealed in Jesus
  - Experience different forms of worship
  - Celebrate the festivals and saints days of the church year
4. Explore and share the beliefs of others e.g.:
  - Listen to stories from other faiths and learn about their significance
  - Observe special celebrations from other faiths
  - Celebrate values and attitudes shared with members of other faith communities
5. Contribute to pupils moral development, e.g.
  - Develop ability to reflect on moral and social issues
  - Appreciate the values and beliefs that people live by
  - Acknowledge and become more aware of the needs of others
6. To contribute to the general development of the pupils, e.g.
  - Provide them with opportunities for leadership, developing presentation and performance skills
  - Develop pupils singing ability
  - Participate in group preparation and presentation
7. To celebrate and take note of the life of the school in the presence of God, e.g.;

Celebrate work undertaken by pupils in all areas of the curriculum  
Build up the sense of community of the school  
Develop and reflect on the values of the school  
Share the achievements, joys and difficulties of all members of the school community

8. To look out to the wider world  
To take note of events in the world and express joy or sorrow as appropriate  
To celebrate and give thanks for Gods world

(MDBE guidelines on worship in church schools)

### **Church of England Collective Worship SOE**

Click on the icon to open.



**Collective-Worship-  
SOE.pdf**