

 **St. Peter's Catholic School** 

# **Collective Worship Policy**

*Learn Together and Grow in God's Love*

# MISSION STATEMENT



St. Peter's Catholic School Mission is that pupils, parents staff, governors and parish build together a learning community which develops love, concern for each other and forgiveness, by living out the Gospel.

This means our school will be a place which:

- ☺ encourages children to live as children
- ☺ welcomes, values and respects the innocence of childhood and the individual's strengths and weaknesses
- ☺ encourages each to use his/her gifts and talents for self fulfilment and the good of all
- ☺ fosters knowledge, experience and understanding
- ☺ celebrates that we are each made in the image and likeness of God
- ☺ fosters prayer, trust in God and an understanding of His love through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, encouraging our respect for all His people

# **Policy on Collective Worship**

## ***Learn Together and Grow in God's Love***

### **Rationale**

We worship together because:

- We wish to witness to our collective faith
- We make explicit the Gospel values by which we live
- Shared worship binds the school community together as a family
- We wish to promote children's spiritual awareness through their appreciation of Art, Music and prayer
- It is a requirement of the Curriculum Directory
- It is a legal requirement to do so

### **Objectives**

We create a reflective and prayerful atmosphere in school by:

- Display and use of crucifix, candles and other symbols of our faith, as well as posters, music, collective and silent prayer
- Each class prays together daily. A prayer focus is provided in each classroom
- Children are encouraged to link the collective experience to their own lives

### **Liturgy**

The school takes part in the Parish on special Feasts and Holidays of Obligation. Each class takes it in turn to prepare the readings, Bidding Prayers and Hymns, and to do the Offertory Procession. Themes are linked to the school's "Here I Am" topic.

Class Masses take place according to the availability of the Parish Priest. Each Junior class attends Mass each half term. Parents are invited to attend and children are asked to bring flowers, in order to mark the special nature of the celebration.

### **Assemblies**

The school gathers as a whole once a week, and in key stage groups twice weekly.

### **Whole School**

The school meets once a week for a whole school assembly on the chosen theme. On two other occasions each week the school celebrates children's talents and achievements in the context of worship. Gold Star/Merit/Value assemblies recognises children's good work and behaviour during

the previous week. In addition children who have had a birthday during the week are congratulated and prayed for.

“Class assemblies” are a chance for each year group in turn to present a short piece to the rest of the school. This may be linked with the work they have undertaken or may be specially prepared for the occasion.