



Collective worship policy

Welcoming and serving all
Through
Discovery, enjoyment and nurture

Reviewed annually
Last review: Sept 2018

Introduction

Miserden C.E. Primary school offers a spiritual and moral basis for the development of human wholeness and a sure foundation for personal and social values based on the person and ministry of Christ. As a community of faith, Miserden C.E. Primary School should, reflect the nature of the Trinity, a life shared and defined by reference to others. Here we can begin to discover who we are, why we are, and – perhaps most importantly – what we might be.

In our school our Christian vision shapes all we do –

*Welcoming and serving all
Through
Discovery, enjoyment and nurture*

The school welcomes and serves all in its community. We work to mirror the body of Christ believing that everyone brings gifts and talents that enrich our life together. We treat one another with generosity, compassion, respect, forgiveness and friendship inspired by the parable of the Good Samaritan. We strive to ensure the children of our school receive the very best education possible believing that an excellent standard of Education is an expression of God's love for us.

Miserden C.E. Primary School collective worship policy

Rationale

The Trust Deed and school ethos statement informs the policy and practice of collective worship in Miserden C.E. Primary School. School worship is an affirmation and celebration of the Christian foundation values and ethos of the school and provides a space and a place for telling the story of Jesus. In our school, we seek to provide a community that will sustain and guide pupils; school worship provides an opportunity for the mutual giving and receiving of worth within a zone of freedom where individuals can face choices.

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.

Prayer and time to reflect are part of each school day and pupils are encouraged to pray in a variety of creative ways.

Aims

Through collective worship in our school we aim to:

- provide an experience of worship that will help children to respond to the presence, power and peace of God, allowing the expression of an encounter with God in verbal and non-verbal language.
- provide opportunities for reflection, participation and enjoyment where children can be actively involved, take part in ritual and "special time" that encourages calm, stillness and peace.

- introduce children to Christian language and symbolism and the cycle of the church year so that children are offered a pattern of meanings and a symbolic framework which can begin to integrate experience.
- explore a variety of ways of praying, giving children the opportunity to form their own prayers and introduce children to some well-known Christian prayers, e.g. Lord’s Prayer and the School Prayer.
- strengthen and support the school community, giving expression to, and reaffirming, the core Christian values agreed by all stakeholders in the school.
- develop a sense of self-worth and celebrate the gifts that each child brings to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual made in the image of God
- encourage pupils 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 community and wider world.
- foster an appreciation, and awareness, of our responsibility for the created world.
- encourage respect of others religious beliefs and practices.
- evoke a sense of beauty, awe, wonder and feelings of pride, pity, compassion, etc through exploring the spirituality of life and experience.

Worship will not compromise the integrity and dignity of individuals but will provide a shared experience which is educational in nature; a time where individuals can reflect inwardly and where together the school community can explore ways of living which reflect the shared values and vision of the school.

Legal Framework

There must be a daily act of collective worship for all pupils that takes account of their age and aptitude (Education Reform Act 1988). Parents have the right to withdraw children from collective worship and suitable arrangements should be made to accommodate these children.

However, in our church school, worship has a central place and is regarded as a very important part of pupils’ education. There is an expectation that parents would meet with the Headteacher to explore their reasons for requesting a withdrawal. The governors have the responsibility for worship in a church school, in consultation with the Headteacher. There is an expectation that staff will be fully involved in worship in this school.

Organisation

The worship will follow the Roots and Fruits resource (Imaginer). Each value will be explored for a term at a time allowing time for other Christian Festivals to be celebrated. The Values will be planned on a two year rolling plan see below.

Year A		
Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Term 1 Generosity Harvest	Term 3 Courage Term 4 Forgiveness	Term 5 Friendship Ascension
Term 2 Compassion	Easter	Term 6 Respect

Christmas		Leavers
Year B		
Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
Term 1 Thankfulness Harvest Term 2 Trust Christmas	Term 3 Perseverance Term 4 Justice Easter	Term 5 service Ascension Term 6 truthfulness Leavers

This will be reviewed as necessary to respond to the needs of the school.

Mondays to Thursdays worship will allow all pupils to meet collectively for a 20-minute act of worship.

Monday's worship will alternately be led by the Open the Book team and the Parish Priest or nominated representative.

Thursday's worship is a pupil led worship

Fridays worship will be class worship.

Alternate weeks a Golden Book worship takes place on a Friday. Parents, members of the community and governors are invited.

Worship is taken by all members of the teaching staff on a rota basis.