



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Date of Policy / Reviews	Author(s)	Approved by Gov. Body	Signed	Date for review
2010	A. Laskey			
27.06.17	A. Murray			30.06.2017
23.06.17	A. Murray			30.06.2018

Ethos of St. Thomas' Moorside Primary School

School Description

We are a Church of England Voluntary Aided primary school located in Sholver, Oldham. Our Foundation is the Parish of St. Thomas' Moorside.

Our vision for St Thomas' Moorside is one where.....

As friends and family we work together to provide a stimulating, enthusiastic and caring environment, where everyone experiences personal success.

We seek to develop a centre of excellence for the nurture of the whole child.

In doing so we will work with parents to encourage each individual to fulfil their potential in a spirit of tolerance, respect and co-operation.

At St. Thomas Moorside we aim to:

- Foster a Christian ethos in which children develop a respect and understanding of Christianity and other faiths through living within a caring, committed and loving community
- Provide a safe, supportive environment in which all children can develop as citizens of the 21 st century, able to reflect on their actions, and their impact on others in an inclusive environment.
- Achieve the highest possible standards within a broad and balanced curriculum with an emphasis on Literacy, Numeracy and Information Communication Technology.
- Provide each child with a progression of learning, which meets their individual needs, developing the skills of communication, enquiry, problem solving, co-operation and thinking skills.
- Sustain a staff that works together to promote the school's values by developing the skills necessary to maintain high standards of Teaching and Learning.

1. Our Aims for Worship at St. Thomas's are:

- a. to contribute to our pupil's spiritual, emotional and social development
- b. to give our pupils a knowledge and understanding particularly of the Christian faith and thoughts from other faiths
- c. to explore, share, value and respect the beliefs of others
- d. to contribute to our pupil's moral development
- e. to contribute to the general development of our pupils
- f. To provide opportunity for reflection.
- g. Promote links with the church
- h. Strengthen and share the ethos of the school

It is not expected that all these aims would be met in any one assembly, but the program over the year will meet all the aims.

2. Rights of Withdrawal

At St Thomas' Moorside Primary School we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from Collective Worship. This school expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the head of school or executive head teacher followed by written confirmation of withdrawal to the Chair of Governors.

All teachers, including the head teacher, have the right of withdrawal from the Act of Collective Worship, but the Executive Headteacher, should he or she wish exercise this right, maintains statutory accountability for Acts of Collective Worship.

3. Visitors

Visitors are welcome into school to take assemblies. Monday assembly slots are preferred, but other times may be accommodated if appropriate. It is important that children experience different approaches to leading worship.

4. Prayers

Dinner Early Years and Key Stage 1- Thank you for the food we eat
 Key Stage 2- For Every Mouthful

Home Time: The School Prayer or The Lord's Prayer

In Class: As linked to the current theme, The Lord's Prayer, The School Prayer

See Appendix I for details of above prayers

5. Organisation and Delivery

<u>DAY/TIME</u>	<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>Theme/ Focus</u>
MONDAY 2.55PM	Whole School	Head of School or visitors	Assembly will link to the current Christian Value (see appendix 2)
TUESDAY 2.55PM	Key Stage Assemblies EY, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Key Stage Leader Key Stage 2 School councilors	Assemblies will link to the current Christian Value
WEDNESDAY 2.55PM	Whole School	Clergy/ PCC Governor in Clergy absence	Church Calendar/ worship themes
THURSDAY 2.45PM	Whole School	Each class and their teacher on a rotational basis (2 per year) Otherwise Key stage leaders lead whole	Class assemblies linked to class topics

		school singing practice	
FRIDAY 2.45PM	Whole school Parents and families invited	Executive Headteacher	Celebration of learning assembly Two pupils per class receive awards

6. Church Services

The whole school visits St Thomas' church every ½ term for a service. Classes prepare a presentation linked to the service theme which will link to the current Christian festival or the whole school value for the half term. Harvest, Christmas and Easter are celebrated. At Easter the whole school takes part in Holy Communion.

7. Worship Areas in Classroom

Areas for worship should be set up for worship by the class teacher. They may be either static or mobile.

8. Relationship to Diocesan Guidelines

Diocesan guidelines for worship were also used in the formulation of the policy.

St Thomas' is a Church of England school which serves a predominantly white Christian and no-faith community. Whilst the content of our worship is broadly Christian in character, the worship group has worked hard to ensure that in accordance with the 1988 Education Reform Act:

- the worship programme is appropriate to the age, aptitude and family background of our pupils;
- our worship will not demand of any pupils (or staff) participation that they cannot give with integrity;
- that we are not asking pupils to take part in activities that may be offensive to them or their parents.

In this way children from other faiths, Christian denominations or no faith are included.

9. Monitoring of the Worship policy

The worship policy will be reviewed every year by the Governing Body.

10. Records

A copy of St. Thomas' worship policy will be kept on the St. Thomas' conference.

Records of worship will also be kept in the Executive Headteacher and Head of School's office.

A copy of the worship and assembly programme will be shared with each teacher.

APPENDIX I

Prayers

Thank you for the Food We Eat

Thank you for the world so sweet.
Thank you for the food we eat.
Thank you for the birds that sing.
Thank you God for everything. Amen

For Every Mouthful

For every mouthful,
For every plateful,
Thank you Lord,
We're truly grateful. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven,
Hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil.
For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
Now and for ever. Amen

The School Prayer (1)

Through the day,
We work and play,
You dear Lord are there,
Guiding us tenderly
With your love and care.
While I live
I shall give you
My love and praise.
Thanking you joyfully
For our happy days. Amen

The School Prayer (2)

Dear Lord,
Help us to respect you and other people.
Teach us to help each other and to work as a team.
Make us use our skills wisely,
And make our work fantastic!
We know that you are there to guide us
As we work through the day.
Amen

Appendix 2

The 12 Christian Values, Imaginor

Each Value will be a focus for half a term and all 12 values will be covered on a 2 yearly cycle.

Year 1

Term	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn 1	Generosity	Thankfulness
Autumn 2	Compassion	Trust
Spring 1	Courage	Perseverance
Spring 2	Forgiveness	Justice
Summer 1	Friendship	Service
Summer 2	Respect	Truthfulness

Whole school assemblies on Mondays will follow Roots and Fruits, Imaginor resources

Early Years Worship will follow Jack in the box, Imaginor

Key Stage 1 Worship will follow Oscar out of the box, Imaginor

Key Stage 2 Worship will follow a structured format and include a story linked to the current value.

Appendix 3

Worship Programme Outline Linked to Aims in the Worship Policy **Weekly Assembly Themes for clergy worship**

Seasonal theme weeks may need to be changed e.g Harvest to fit in to calendar.

Week 1: A new beginning

Week 2: Sharing/caring consideration for others St Gregory

Week 3: Trust St Matthew

Week 4: Greed

Week 5: Appearances can be deceptive

Week 6: friendship and kindness

Week 7: Harvest

Week 8: Muslims

Week 9: Patience

Week 10: Doing your best

Week 11: Standing up for what you believe to be right

Week 12: Setting an example

Week 13: Christmas

Week 14: Christmas

Week 15: Resolutions

Week 16: Taking things for granted

Week 17: Temptation

Week 18: Thoughtlessness

Week 19: Responsibility

Week 19: Perseverance

Week 20: Loyalty

Week 21: Gossip

Week 22: Insincerity

Week 23: Jealousy

Week 24: Mothering Sunday

Week 25: Easter

Week 26: Cheating

Week 27: Leadership / Sayings of Jesus

Week 28: Trust

Week 29: Caring for the environment

Week 30: Thinking

Week 31: The Sikhs

Week 32: Dependable people

Week 33: End of a year

