



EMMAUS

**Catholic and Church of England
Academy**

'Walking with Jesus as we learn'

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Name of school:	Emmaus Catholic and Church of England
Date of approval of this policy:	January 2025
Approved by:	Governing Body
Date of next review:	Spring 2027

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ST CLARE
Catholic Multi Academy Trust

The School's Statement of Ethos and Values

We are a joint denominational school, which means we are part of two church families – the Church of England and the Catholic Church.

Our belief in Christ is at the heart of our school.

We embrace everyone as a unique individual who is precious to God. We nurture the whole child, celebrating their efforts and achievements whilst encouraging their aspirations and developing their potential.

We work in partnership with our families, our parish churches and our wider community.

We respect and care for one another, practising forgiveness and reconciliation, reflecting God's love.

Our pupils enjoy learning, reflect on their thinking, have fun and have a deep sense of pride in their school.

The Nature of Collective Worship

We consider collective worship to include both prayer and liturgical celebrations, the purpose of which is to open the heart and mind to God.

Legal Requirements

We expect that all pupils be present at an act of Collective Worship each day. We acknowledge the legal requirements that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can either be a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups).

We require that designated time should be allocated to Acts of Collective Worship for the whole school, phases of the school and individual classes and that this time should be discrete from time devoted to curriculum and registration.

The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

We endorse the belief that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who are part of a worshipping community within Church outside of the school,
- Those for who school may be their first experience of Church,
- Those from Christian traditions other than within the Catholic Church and Church of England — or none.
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

Collective Worship should be an educational activity or experience from which all are able to gain something.

Worship in the school is more than a legal requirement but an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic and Church of England traditions.

Act of Worship will be sufficiently open in style to include all active participants despite their stage of faith development, but will always be rooted in the Catholic and/or Church of England traditions.

The Aims of Collective Worship

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- To reflect on spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues;
- To explore their own beliefs and begin to understand the beliefs of others.
- To respond to and celebrate life;
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit;
- To develop a common ethos and shared values;

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- To enrich religious experience;
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development;
- To reinforce the importance of prayers within the Catholic and Church of England traditions.
- To reinforce positive attitudes;
- To be actively involved and participate as fully as possible;
- To take the time to "wonder at", "come to terms with" and "give worth to" many life experiences and feelings.

Principles

We require that, in promoting links between home and school and parishes all such prayer and worship should be conducted within the Traditions of the Roman Catholic and Church of England Churches and should follow the common liturgical cycle.

The Planning Content and Delivery of Collective Worship

We see a close relationship but clear distinction between the Acts of Collective Worship and school assemblies concerned with other aspects of school life.

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school either as a whole school or in classes. The structure of collective worship varies but usually includes a song, questions, times of silence and prayer.

Collective Worship follows our school vision and values and is based on:

- Religious events and special days
- Special events in the life of the school and wider community.

Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Gospel Assembly	Hymn Singing Assembly	Phase Assembly	Classroom Collective Worship	Celebration Assembly

Monitoring and Evaluation

Because of its whole-school or whole-group nature, we acknowledge that recording achievement/attainment against the aims mentioned above is a difficult task. The school's collective worship policy is continually monitored and evaluated by the leadership team and RE co-ordinator.

Eucharist

We consider it to be desirable that the Eucharist from both Traditions, should be available to staff and pupils as deemed appropriate by both Bishops and their local clergy. However, currently we are only able to offer communion from the Catholic Church for pupils and staff who have made their Holy Communion in the Catholic Tradition.

A Guide to Progression in Collective Worship

This document is intended as a guide for members of staff so that we can promote pupil leadership of collective worship, relative to children's age and stage of development. How independently should children be leading collective worship by the end of each phase? What prayers and resources might you expect them to use? How much involvement should staff have?

Class collective worship		
Year group	Expectations	Resources
Foundation stage	Children to use Let Us Pray proforma and resources to plan and lead liturgies, facilitated and supported by an adult. All children to have opportunity to plan and lead a liturgy by the summer term. Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.	Let us Pray cards and liturgy box Classroom resources Lion's Bible

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	<p>Teacher to explicitly model liturgy to children a least once a term. Advent/Lent Term – whole class planning Pentecost Term – group planning</p>	
Early Phase (KS1)	<p>Children to plan and prepare focal point for worship according to liturgical season/Come and See topic. Beginning of Y1 onwards, all children to plan liturgies in groups, facilitated by an adult. Y2 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy. Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>	<p>Classroom resources KS1 Bible Access to music folder on school system resources folder (from hymn practice)</p>
Middle Phase (y3&4)	<p>Y3 to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy. Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p> <p>Y4 – Children to generate their own way of gathering to begin the liturgy, a response to the word, and plan their own mission for children to complete the liturgy. Children to use Bible to support planning of class liturgies from Summer Term (if suitable). Whole class to evaluate liturgy, recorded on proforma.</p>	<p>Classroom resources KS2 Bible Access to music folder on school system resources folder (from hymn practice) CAFOD planning document CAFOD evaluation document Open Bible access (yr4)</p>
Upper Phase (y5&6)	<p>Children to use Ten Ten Pupil portal to support planning of class liturgies. Children to use Open Bible online resource to select a reading linked to the theme provided on liturgical calendar. Pupils to then find the passage in Bible to add to their prayer focus. Children to generate their own gather, response, word and mission according to the theme. They may use songs, actions, prayers, classroom resources within the liturgy. We encourage active participants throughout. This is overseen by an adult, and guided only when necessary. Evaluation is recorded on CAFOD proforma following whole class discussion. Children are encouraged to give reasons for their responses and recommendations.</p>	<p>Open Bible link on home screen KS2 Bible Extra-Ordo-Nary Liturgical Calendar Prayer area resources Access to YouTube/music folder on staff works CAFOD planning document CAFOD evaluation document</p>

Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is to be reviewed every 2 years.