



ST IPPOLYTS CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL



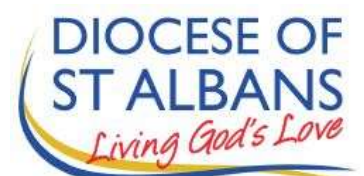
Collective Worship Policy



Our principle aim:

To provide the best possible education for each child as a unique individual, within the context of a caring, Christian community.

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34



VISION AND VALUES

Founded in 1847, St Ippolyts Primary School will value and develop its Christian Character in harmony with the principles of the Church of England. The school and church are together at the heart of the Christian mission within the community. We will work in true partnership with our community and St. Albans Diocese. The school will serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It will encourage an understanding of the significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

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- That children should feel happy and secure at school.
- To assist children to use and extend their natural curiosity to investigate the world around them.
- To develop high levels of literacy, numeracy and scientific skills and understanding.
- To promote a wide range of skills and knowledge in Information Communication Technology.
- To develop children’s skills of seeking knowledge independently.
- To consider everyone within the school and local community, their property and the school environment.
- To raise the level of self-esteem of children through positive action and statement and to give all children equal opportunity to fulfil their potential.
- To develop an understanding of Christianity and have an awareness of moral, cultural and religious diversity.
- To participate in and enjoy a variety of art forms and human achievements through a creative and inspiring curriculum.
- To develop physical fitness, agility and co-ordination.
- That all members of the school community should feel safe in school and free from harassment.

Our Christian values:

***Respect Forgiveness Love Perseverance Truthfulness Courage
Thankfulness Trust Service Compassion Justice Generosity***



At St. Ippolyts C of E (VA) Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is viewed as a central part of school life. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian Values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

Through this and in the general ethos of the school we seek to promote our principal aim:

‘To provide the best possible education for each child as a unique individual, within the context of a caring, Christian community.’

It is a time where we come together to share our love of God and celebrate our achievements (and sometimes failures) together. The worship of the school is based on promoting the Christian values which permeate the ethos of the school. As such, the contributions of staff, pupils, church clergy and other visitors are valued highly. This will be carried out in a manner appropriate to their age, aptitude and family background and drawing upon the riches of the Anglican and other Christian traditions.

Christian Values

We identify the values of forgiveness, fairness, respect and tolerance of others, integrity, compassion, honesty and self-worth. These values are embodied in the New Commandment that Jesus gave us:

John 13:34-35

“...love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another”

We also actively seek to encourage the attitudes of awe, wonder and reflection.

Values Education

We blend Christian teaching and Values Education in order to create opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

Aims

Invitational collective worship in St Ippolyts School aims to provide the opportunity for pupils and adults to:

- experience a variety of styles of worship
- celebrate together e.g. festivals, school values, individual achievements
- build a sense of community/foster corporate identity;
- develop a reflective approach to living which sometimes encourages understanding of and invitation to prayer;
- look beyond the physical, material and measurable

- worship God or reflect on human values;
- consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs;
- participate and respond, through active involvement in the planning, leading, presentation and evaluation of worship
- feel safe and affirmed in doing any of the above

Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1996 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Headteacher.

Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday – whole school - headteacher led – values / church calendar / key inspirational figures

Tuesday – Whole School Worship – this is led by all teachers under a rotational basis. Each member of staff is given a copy of the half terms value at the beginning of each half term to assist with the planning of their led worship. Each class may also use the Collective Worship CD in Class of the hymns and music for other acts of worship.

Wednesday – We have two acts of worship – one for EYFS/KS1 and the other for KS2. The themes are based on the same value, but content is differentiated appropriately. KS 1 is based around Godly Play. However, Keystage Acts of worship have followed meditational worship. Class teachers lead these assemblies on a rota basis.

Thursday – whole school – assistant head led – worship through music and song for praise

Friday – whole school ‘Friday Fellowship’ – headteacher or SLT led – celebrations and praise

Additional Acts of Worship including Pupil Led Worship

The Young Worship Group (established in 2013) meet weekly with the Head teacher to talk about issues and plan for end of Value Collective Worship. Independent acts of worship led by the Young Worship group take place at least half termly.

Each class leads a class assembly once during the school year when parents relatives and friends are invited to join us.

In addition to this, visiting groups and individuals are welcomed into the school regularly to lead worship. The worship lasts between 15-30 minutes depending on content.

Planning, Content and Detail

The themes for Monday's Collective Worship reflect our Values focus for that term, the Church calendar, our school ethos, key inspirational world figures and current events. The worship begins with the children entering the hall accompanied by a piece of music for the week. The candles on the altar table are lit and the worship begins, with the reciting of a morning prayer by a child from Young Worship. This is followed by the singing of a weekly chosen hymn. The children are regularly involved in the worship, which finishes with a prayer and time for reflection. The candles are then blown out before any messages are given. This allows for us to make a clear distinction between worship and assembly. The children then lead out as the music is played.

Tuesday Staff rota based Collective Worship and Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 have planned themes for their acts of collective worship on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The format is similar to Monday's whole school worship, although, there may be times when no hymn is sung.

Thursday's worship through music includes the lighting of a candle to focus the children's attention and aims to develop the children's understanding of new hymns as well as learning them and understanding the religious text. The session ends with a time for reflection or a prayer before the candles are blown out. The children leave in the same way as before.

At Friday Fellowship the children's achievements are celebrated both in and outside school. Teachers choose members of their class to share and show their learning in class, being awarded the Golden chair. Children from each class then receive a special mention and are given a badge for effort, achievement or half terms value children's names are displayed on the Values board situated in the main corridor. This takes place after the children have sung the hymn. Once the children have received a round of applause, a prayer is said, led by adult or child.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective Worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including hymn practice. Children are asked to join in prayers if they wish but all children are required to respect the prayer and reflection time of others. Prayers are also said at lunchtime and at the end of the day. A range of prayers are used including the Lord's Prayer, prayers written by the children and others. They are introduced in an appropriate manner with a short time of quiet.

At the beginning of the whole school worship led by the Headteacher or members of staff, a time of reflection and quiet is encouraged by the lighting of candle alongside a short morning prayer. A cross is also displayed above or on the altar table within the hall and in each class. Children are given time to write their own prayers throughout the year which are then given value by being displayed and read throughout the year.

At the beginning of the lunch hour, grace is said by either an adult or child in each class. Teachers or at times children say a prayer with their class at the end of the school day.

Children are encouraged to write short prayers and leave them to be read in Collective Worship or at church services at various times throughout the year. Sometimes these are related to the current value, a current issue or on other occasions this could be a personal prayer.

Resources

The school holds a comprehensive bank of resources for supporting inspirational collective worship. These are available for all staff to access. In addition, the headteacher, subject leader and clergy provide support and training as required.

Other Faiths

Although our worship reflects our Christian beliefs and values, we are committed to respecting each other's faith stance and culture, showing tolerance and understanding regardless of pupils' beliefs. The class-led acts of worship may make links to other cultures and beliefs as they reflect the RE studied as part of the curriculum requirements.

Record Keeping, Evaluation and Monitoring

A file is kept, recording details of each act of worship. Any evaluation will be recorded here by the Year 6 children who hold responsibilities/jobs throughout school. Children are asked how the act of Collective worship will help them in their lives and children's comments are recorded. These evaluations are also filled in by visiting Governors through the week.

Visits and visitors

As part of the curriculum, St Ippolyts School ensures that appropriate visits are made available for the children in order for them to have first-hand experiences and gain a greater understanding of various places of worship.

Visitors to the school are welcomed and enabled to share their experiences and knowledge – their role is to educate, not to evangelise. St Ippolyts Church is our most valuable and frequently used resource, with the whole school attending and contributing towards annual Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' Services. Staff will also invite a range of groups or individuals to lead assemblies to enrich the curriculum, some of these include NSPCC, Guide Dogs, Hettie's Helpers and Link to Hope shoebox appeal.

Inclusion

All pupils, regardless of academic ability, age, gender and ethnic origin will have access to a wide range of appropriate activities to support their understanding of worship. At each Key

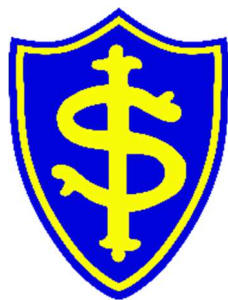
Stage, the teacher will draw from other religions as appropriate to acknowledge and celebrate the religious beliefs of the children within the class.

Withdrawal

Our policy sets out clearly our aspiration that collective worship will be a valuable and valued experience for all members of our school community whatever their backgrounds and beliefs. It is invitational and reflective in nature and never coercive or indoctrinatory.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or any acts of worship. We request that those who wish to exercise this right inform the Headteacher in writing so that school records are accurate.

We also appreciate opportunities to speak with parents who have concerns about collective worship, always keen to develop our understanding of sensitivities and to overcome difficulties where possible.



St Ippolyts C.E. (Aided) Primary School

Values Education Year Coverage



2014	Perseverance	2015	Service
	Forgiveness		Justice
	Love		Compassion
	Courage		Trust
	Generosity		Generosity
	Truthfulness		Compassion
2016	Courage	2017	Love
	Forgiveness		Justice
	Respect		Service
	Perseverance		Truthfulness
	Thankfulness		Respect
	Trust		Generosity
2018	Forgiveness	2019	Service
	Compassion		Love
	Perseverance		Justice
	Truthfulness		Trust
	Thankfulness		Respect
	Courage		Generosity
2020	Compassion	2021	Love
	Forgiveness		Justice
	Perseverance		Service
	Courage		Trust
	Thankfulness		Generosity
	Truthfulness		Respect