



# ST JAMES HATCHAM

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

**‘Raising leaders in academic excellence and Godly character’.**

### COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

#### **Our Mission Statement**

At St. James Hatcham Church of England Primary School, we are committed to creating a happy, caring and enriching learning environment, underpinned by Christian values of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace .We celebrate children’s achievement and encourage them to fulfil their potential through a creative curriculum. We respect their differences; encourage kindness, consideration and mutual respect. We foster self-esteem and aim to provide a sound foundation for the whole of their lives.

The way our school is conducted is rooted in the Christian faith, i.e. the life and example set to us by Jesus Christ.

Worship plays an important role in the daily life of the school. Each morning includes an act of whole school worship. A candle is lit and music is played to set the mood of calmness and respect.

Acts of worship give children and staff the opportunity to pray sing and reflect. Teaching is mostly Bible based although we sometimes use secular stories.

Collective worship is organized in the following way:

<b>Day and time</b>	<b>Assembly</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Monday 9.15-9.30	Whole school	Headteacher/Visiting speaker
Tuesday 9.15-9.30	Key Stage	Staff on a rota basis
Wednesday 9.05-9.30	Church	Vicar/Visiting speaker
Thursday 3.00- 3.30	Singing Assembly	Music Teacher
Friday 9.15-9.30	Sharing	Headteacher

#### **Singing a hymn and saying a prayer is incorporated in all collective worship times.**

Prayer plays an important part in the school day , the Lord’s prayer and the Grace is said at collective worship times .Prayers are also said at other times during the day including lunchtime, home time and during Key Stage 2 SATs. At the end of the day candles are lit to encourage the children to reflect on the day before a prayer is said. (See Appendix 1 for co- operative prayers)

The Foundation Stage takes part in Key Stage assemblies when ready.

We ensure parents know that they are always welcome to collective worship times and church by regularly reminding them in our monthly newsletters.

## **Aims of the School Worship Programme**

- To offer worship experiences that will encourage the spiritual development of each individual that attends.
- To give expression to the Christian values which underpin the life of the school.
- To provide sound, moral teaching within a Christian context.
- To develop an awareness of and a concern for the needs of others.
- To help develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.
- To provide times for silence and reflection.
- To help pupils to develop the attitudes and values that are fundamental to the Christian faith.
- To encourage participation and response.

## **Expectations of pupils**

Individuals are expected to participate as fully as possible in acts of worship by joining in with the hymns and songs, the Grace, the Lord's Prayer and as individuals by answering questions, reading the Bible and leading prayers. There are times that children take part in Drama activities.

## **Visiting Speakers**

Visiting speakers can enrich Collective Worship as they can bring a different perspective to it. Visits from other denominations and organisations such as the Spinnaker trust represent aspects of the school's wider community.

## **Parental right of withdrawal**

The law states that if they wish, parents may withdraw their children from Religious Education and Collective Worship. As St. James' is a Church of England school, it is expected that in entering their child into the school, parents will have fully accepted our ethos and that withdrawal will not be necessary.

## **How worship is planned, organised and delivered**

Assembly themes are planned a term in advance by the R.E. Subject Leader with input from the Faith group. Themes include the Christian Seasons of the year: Christmas, Easter, Harvest, our core values and other shared values, stories from the Bible and how they teach us about how to live. In a school setting, this will address matters such as peace, perseverance, bullying and love etc.

The programme for worship in church is followed by the school's themes.

Singing and sharing assemblies are arranged by the Head and Music Subject Leader.

## **Resources**

A variety of resources are kept in the RE resources area and the library to help in the planning and delivery of these themes.

Review Date: September 2013

*Sonia McFarlane, Father Neil Nichols & Alison Henry 2012*

## **Collective Worship prayers**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done in earth,  
As it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
The power, and the glory,  
For ever and ever.  
Amen.

### **The Grace**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all,  
now and evermore.  
Amen.

### **Lunch time prayer**

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

### **End of day prayer**

Jesus, Friend of little children,  
be a friend to me;  
take my hand, and ever keep me  
close to thee.  
Amen