

Mission Statement

In Christ We Grow – As a learning community we live out our Mission Statement striving for excellence through caring, sharing and achieving.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective Worship in a Catholic school is more than just a legal requirement. It is central to Catholic education and is an essential part of the school's overall provision for prayer and worship.

Collective Worship in a Catholic school whilst respecting diversity of belief and commitment will be Catholic in character, reflecting the liturgical tradition of the Church and having Christ at its heart.

This takes into account the religious and education needs of all who share in it:

- **those who form part of the worshipping community in Church**
- **those for whom school may be their first and only experience of Church.**
- **those from other Christian traditions.**
- **those from other faith backgrounds.**

Collective Worship is an act of prayer and a spiritual experience as well as an educational activity/experience :

- in which all should participate
- which all should show respect
- to which all should contribute
- from which all should gain

AGREED PRINCIPLES

All worship in Our Lady's emanates from Sacred Scripture and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Worship in our school:

1. Must aim to meet the needs of our students in living by our Mission Statement "In Christ We Grow" and by the gospel values through our school expectations.
2. Must provide opportunities to celebrate our caring, sharing and achieving.
3. Enables students to develop their gifts and talents, as part of their spiritual development. Thus enabling them to answer God's call to go out into the world to spread the good news, following the example of Jesus.
4. Is a means of teaching, love, justice, hope, tolerance and acceptance of every person in Our Lady's and the wider community (diversity and social cohesion).
5. Should be an opportunity for the students, with their teachers, to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
6. Should encourage participation and response whether through active involvement or through listening to or joining in the worship offered.
7. Should develop a Catholic ethos, a community spirit and shared values.
8. Should reinforce positive attitudes in order to give shape and meaning to our lives.
9. Should be an opportunity for an individual to develop their prayer life and personal beliefs through a range of activities including words, music, art, simple silence and discussion.

10. Must be valued as setting the tone and giving purpose to study and to daily living with those around us.
11. Should focus on the distinctive nature of being a Catholic community.
12. Must comply with statutory requirements.
13. Must be based on agreed educational principles to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

At Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College all prayer and worship organised by the school, for its members, is consistent with the beliefs, rites and practices of the Catholic Church. The school Chaplain supports all aspects of prayer and worship in our school.

A firm religious, spiritual and moral basis, consistent with and supportive of the Catholic character of the school underpins the provision of Collective Worship.

An act of Collective Worship takes place each Monday. Daily collective worship occurs on three days each week and there is an assembly for each year group one day each week. Collective and Daily worship take place during Form Time. Each Form Group will be involved in the planning and leading of an assembly.

All Collective worship, Daily Worship and assemblies will follow the Theme of the Week as detailed in the Collective Worship Calendar, which also follows the liturgical year. The Weekly themes and appropriate resources, including power points, prayers and liturgy are provided by the School Chaplain on a weekly basis. Other Catholic leaders plan and lead worship throughout the school year.

Opportunities for enhancing the Spiritual life of all members of the school community are shared weekly and are regularly amended and added to, so that the needs of the school community are met. This includes a weekly voluntary mass for staff and students, CPD relating to Collective Worship and the opportunity to complete the CCRS. Students have the opportunity to participate in activities that enhance their spiritual life including Faith in Action, CAFOD initiatives and chaplaincy groups.

A Mass of welcome for new students in Year 7 is celebrated at the beginning of the autumn term and a Mass/leavers' liturgy for those leaving in Year 11 is timed appropriately. Key liturgical events are celebrated through whole school Masses and liturgies and there are opportunities for other appropriate services relevant to the lives of the school community.

Revised September 2022
Reviewed October 2023