

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

INTRODUCTION

This policy makes reference to the following documents:

1. KAS 2012 - The (revised) Kent Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2012, "A Creative Vision for Religious Education" (largely based on same for 2006)
2. The National Curriculum in England: New Framework. *Effective from September 2014*
3. National Curriculum for RE, non-statutory Framework, 2012
4. DfES Non-Statutory National Framework for Religious Education (Oct, 2004) - "Guidance in Religious Education and Collective Worship"

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK - a background

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires that all pupils registered in maintain schools, attend a daily act of collective worship. This requirement is restated in the recent document, The National Curriculum in England: New Framework, effective from September 2014. It is the responsibility of the Headteacher, after consultation with the Governing Body, to arrange for daily acts of worship to take place. This requirement applies to Special Schools as far as is practicable. Parents have the right to withdraw their child from the act of collective worship.

The (revised) Kent Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education 2012, "A Creative Vision for Religious Education" (largely based on same for 2006) provides a basis for planning collective worship and follows the recommendations contained in the national documents listed above, including DfES Non-Statutory National Framework for Religious Education (Oct, 2004), "Guidance in Religious Education and Collective Worship". The Kent Agreed Syllabus 2012 helps schools "promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development through religious communication".

The content and themes of acts of collective worship are planned to be accessible and intelligible to our pupils and have regard to their social, cultural, religious and non-religious backgrounds as well as their ages and aptitudes.

The principles behind our school worship are:-

- ❖ Worship should be inclusive
- ❖ Worship should be curricular
- ❖ Worship should be educational
- ❖ Worship should contribute to spiritual development
- ❖ Worship should have a sense of occasion
- ❖ Worship should be shaped to the needs of our school and our pupils

The features of our school worship are:-

- ❖ Sense of awe
- ❖ Sense of wonder
- ❖ Sense of change
- ❖ Sense of pattern and purpose
- ❖ Awareness of the natural world
- ❖ Awareness of personal worth
- ❖ Awareness of others
- ❖ Awareness of community
- ❖ Awareness of achievement
- ❖ Awareness of loss, suffering and sadness
- ❖ Awareness that life involves choices

Collective worship is organised at a whole school level, a department level and a class level following the Kent Sacre guidance document 2012 'Gathering Together: Policy and Practice for Collective Worship'.

In the Primary Department, Collective Worship follows a termly cycle of six themes:

- ❖ Celebration
- ❖ Relationships
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Specialness
- ❖ Community
- ❖ Values

Incorporated in this is the celebration of festivals and special events in the major religions and cultures (See Appendix A).

In the Senior Department and FE (Post 16), Collective Worship is based on the festivals calendar and will be developed with the introduction of an appropriate Collective Worship Syllabus.

EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

St Nicholas School, in all policies and procedures, will promote equality of opportunity for students and staff from all social, cultural and economic backgrounds and ensure freedom from discrimination on the basis of membership of any group including gender, sexual orientation, family circumstances, ethnic or national origin disability (physical or mental), religious or political beliefs.

St Nicholas School aims to:

- Provide equal opportunity for all

- To foster good relations, and create effective partnership with all sections of the community
- To take no action which discriminates unlawfully in service delivery, commissioning and employment
- To provide an environment free from fear and discrimination, where diversity, respect and dignity are valued

All aspects of Safeguarding will be embedded into the life of the School and be adhered to and be the responsibility of all staff.

LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

Religious Education
 Community Cohesion
 Safeguarding
 Equality Policy

PAUL BUTLER
REVIEWED TERM 2 2014

APPENDIX A

UNDERLYING THEME: Celebration	UNDERLYING THEM: Celebration
TIME OF YEAR: Term 1 (Autumn)	TIME OF YEAR: Term 2 (Autumn)

Week 1: Celebrating a new beginning	Week 1: Relationships within our families
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Things we have done which gave us joy 2. Things we can do for others 3. Caring for those less fortunate than ourselves 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What we want for ourselves 2. What we give of ourselves 3. What others give to us
Week 2: Celebrating Special Times	Week 2: The School Family
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Special times in our family 2. Special times with our friends 3. Special times in our school 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being proud to belong 2. The way we treat others 3. What we can contribute to school life
Week 3: Celebrating Jewish New Year	Week 3: The World Family
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jewish Family Celebrations 2. The Ritual of asking for forgiveness 3. Being sorry and saying sorry 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have brothers and sisters all over the world 2. Ways to heal divisions 3. What we can do to make a better world
Week 4: Celebrating the good things in our lives	Week 4: Learning to Love
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being a friend and having a friend 2. Being happy to be who we are 3. Counting our blessings 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ways we can show love 2. Ways we can be loveable 3. Greater love has no more than to lay down his life
Week 5: Celebrating the Harvest	Week 5: Power of love in the Christmas Story
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bread means life 2. Water gives life 3. Taking things for granted 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mary for Elisabeth 2. Joseph for Mary 3. The Shepherds for the Baby
Week 6: Celebrating the Harvest	Week 6: The Power of Love in our own Homes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Saying thank you for all we are given 2. Saying thank you to God 3. Sharing what we have with others 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Giving is better than receiving 2. Ways we can show love at Christmas 3. Making those who love us feel special

UNDERLYING THEME: Communication	UNDERLYING THEM: Specialness
TIME OF YEAR: Term 3 (Spring)	TIME OF YEAR: Term 4 (Spring)
Week 1: Changing for the better New Year Resolutions	Week 1: We are special
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making a new start 2. Saying sorry and saying thank you 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our names are special 2. We are all special to someone 3. Making someone else feel special
Week 2: Choosing our words carefully	Week 2: Mementoes and memorabilia
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finding the right words to say 2. The pain caused by thoughtless words 3. The way we feel when others praise us 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Things left to us by others 2. Things which remind us others 3. Things we give to others to remind them of us
Week 3: Being a good listener	Week 3: Places we remember
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What we can learn when we listen 2. Everyone has a story worth listening to 3. How the Samaritans help by listening 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feelings when we recall a place we have visited 2. Places which inspire awe and wonder 3. A place of Christian pilgrimage
Week 4: Difficulties in Communication	Week 4: People we Admire
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dealing with aggression 2. Ways we communicate through our expression 3. Learning how to smile 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Heroes and role models 2. The heroism of the Christian Saint 3. The quality of selfless love
Week 5: Overcoming Difficulties in Communication	Week 5: Times we Remember
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan 2. Louie Braille 3. Beethoven 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A special event in our lives 2. Passover – a special time for Jews 3. Holy Week – a special time for Christians
Week 6: Communication without Words	Week 6: Special Events in Holy Week
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Painting and Sculpture 2. Dance and Mime 3. Music and Rhythm 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Palm Sunday 2. The Last Supper 3. The death of Jesus

UNDERLYING THEME: Community	UNDERLYING THEM: Values
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TIME OF YEAR: Term 5 (Summer)	TIME OF YEAR: Term 6 (Summer)
Week 1: Easter for the Christian Community	Week 1: Ourselves and our Values
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The empty Tomb 2. The friends of Jesus gathered together 3. The celebration of new life together 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How we see ourselves 2. How other people see us 3. Knowing what to change and what to accept
Week 2: Belonging to the School Community	Week 2: Things we Believe
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making the school a happy place to be in 2. Looking after the school 3. Looking after other people 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Friendship and loyalty 2. Honesty and trust 3. Fairness and equality
Week 3: Belonging to the local community	Week 3: Truth and Lies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Being a good neighbour 2. Making the neighbourhood safe for everyone 3. Ways to improve our neighbourhood 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People we trust 2. How it feels to be lied to 3. Telling the truth even when it hurts
Week 4: Care in the Community	Week 4: Right and Wrong
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The plight of the homeless 2. Becoming aware of injustice and cruelty 3. Ways to help elderly, infirm and lonely people 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A good conscience 2. A bad conscience 3. How it feels when we do wrong
Week 5: Belonging to the World Community	Week 5: Rules and Laws
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taking responsibility for others 2. Taking responsibility for the environment 3. Taking responsibility for the future 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meaning of the Ten Commandments 2. The meaning of the Sermon on the Mount 3. Do to others as you would have them do to you
Week 6: Making the world a better place	Week 6: Christian Beliefs
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The work of the United Nations 2. The work of the Third World Charities 3. Ways to bring peace and harmony between people 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The message of Jesus about the Kingdom of God 2. Loving the unseen God in the brother we see 3. Every hair on our head is counted