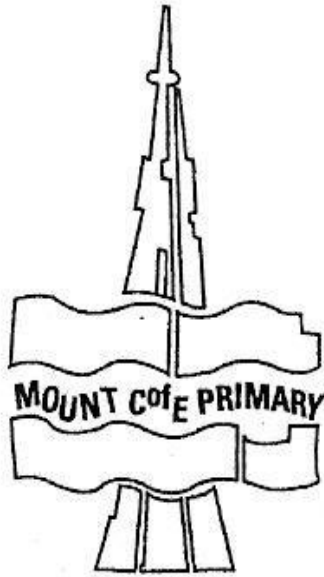




Mount CofE Primary School

Worship Policy

Updated: Spring Term 2022

Review date: Spring Term 2023

Signed:
(Headteacher)

The 1988 Education Act places responsibility for the daily act of Collective Worship with the Governing Body after consultation with the Head teacher and requires the School Worship to be conducted in accordance with the school's Trust Deed. The arrangements for Collective Worship are therefore to be in accordance with the teaching of the Church of England, bearing in mind the age, aptitude and ability of the pupils.

A broad approach is taken in accordance with the inclusive nature of the Anglican tradition. Parents are reminded in the School brochure of their right to withdraw their children from Collective Worship.

Collective Worship in school has to do with personal acknowledgement of God and the act of self-giving or commitment to him. Collective Worship provides the opportunity for children to worship God and explore their own beliefs. It reflects something special and is concerned with reverence and veneration, although it is related to day-to-day life and celebrates our shared values. Worship provides a focus for the communal life of the school and contributes to the development of self-esteem in each individual.

Aims of the Mount CofE Primary School's Collective Worship

In our acts of Collective Worship we aim to:-

- Cultivate a sense of fellowship and belonging;
- Encourage a sense of awe and wonder at the beauty, mystery and power of the natural world;
- Allow a reflection of fundamental questions of life;
- Provide opportunities for celebration and thanksgiving;
- Develop concern for the needs of others;
- Offer a time for sharing the success and failures of others through providing the experience of being part of a caring community;
- Foster new insights about life;
- Contribute to religious education of all pupils;
- Introduce pupils to various aspects of religious worship, give them confidence in their own tradition and help them to value the tradition of other.

Our Collective Worship encourages participation and response through listening and through joining in with hymns and prayers. Children are encouraged to join in with the Lords' Prayer, responsorial prayers and the Mount School prayer. This was written by the Rector and a group of children together and is displayed in the school hall. The words of hymns are displayed on the overhead projector. Other resources and visual aids of the Christian faith may be used. There is a cross and a display which reflects the Christian teaching across school, both of which serve as focuses for prayer and reflection.

Assembly themes may be related to the cycle of the year, or, particularly in class assemblies, to subjects studied in RE or other parts of the curriculum. They may offer an opportunity to reaffirm the values of the school and to develop a wider sense of community; see below current year's overview.

We welcome the Choir Master from St Mary Magdalene to support and enrich our worship on a regular basis.

Covid-19

During the response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in the UK, school leaders and teachers had to develop systems for delivering collective worship to their pupils. Currently, one of our top priorities is the well-being of our learners, and that includes their spiritual, social and emotional well-being too. Daily assemblies with an act of collective worship are a valuable part of school life. They help to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes. In these unprecedented times, this is needed now more than ever.

School life has changed, and continuing to offer regular collective worship during this time gives opportunities for all members of the school community (learners, all school staff, families and the wider community - should they wish to participate) to stay connected in a way that is meaningful for them. Being part of a collective experience on a regular basis will be a lifeline for some of our children and young people who, during this time, may feel isolated and anxious. It will not only offer them a sense of normality but also the space and time to reflect and to consider what is important to themselves and others. It will enable them to come together as one community and find comfort in belonging.

As such, until further notice, collective worship at the Mount CofE Primary School will be conducted virtually through Microsoft Teams, between classrooms in the school building to maintain the socially distanced bubble system that is in place. Worship will follow the ordinary format with differing thematic content each day, time for reflection and ending with a prayer.

Worship Plan

AUTUMN TERM			
Week	National awareness days, religious festivals or events	Assembly themes	Liturgical Colour
1	International Literacy Day (8 th Sep)	Writings Culture	
2	Roald Dahl Day (13 th Sep)	Story Telling (Parables)	
3	International Day of Peace (21 st Sep)	Peace	
4	Rosh Hashanah – Jewish New Year (begins 29 th Sep)	New Beginnings Personal Reflection	
5	Black History Month (begins 1 st Oct) World Space Week (begins 4 th Oct)	Respect Understanding Fairness	
6	National Braille Week (begins 7 th Oct) Yom Kippur – Jewish Day of Atonement (begins 8 th Oct)	Saying Sorry Making it Right	
7	Anti-Slavery Day (18 th Oct)	Freedom British Values	
HALF TERM			
8	All Saints – Start of 4 week run up to Advent (end of Church year). Looking to good examples in the church	Bible Characters Examples to admire Role Models	
9	Remembrance Day (11 th Nov) Anti-Bullying Week (begins 11 th Nov)	Justice Appearances	
10	Universal Children's Day (20 th Nov) Disability History Month (22 nd Nov) Children in Need	Disability Tolerance Value 'Every Child is important'	
11	St Andrews Day (30 th Nov) Advent (begins 1 st Dec)	Hope (New creation, Jesus coming again)	
12	Abolition of Slavery – William Wilberforce (2 nd Dec)	Freedom Justice	
13	Human Rights Day – Martin Luther King (10 th Dec)	Law of England UN Equality	
14	Christmas	Religion	

SPRING TERM

SPRING TERM			
Week	National awareness days, religious festivals or events	Assembly themes	Liturgical Colour
1	Epiphany (6 th Jan) Idea of gift giving and promises	Promises	
2	World Religion Day (19 th Jan)	Religion Respect	
3	Chinese New Year (25 th Jan)	Art Music	
4	Holocaust Memorial Day (27 th Jan)	Tyranny War Discrimination	
5	WORK TO THEME	Humility	
6	Valentine's Day (14 th Feb)	Love (Self-Image)	
HALF TERM			
7	LENT (begins 26 th Feb) - Shrove Tuesday - Ash Wednesday	Sacrifice Selflessness	
8	Women's History Month (begins 1 st Mar) World Book Day (5 th Mar) International Women's Day (8 th Mar)	Women Women's Day of Prayer (Millicent Fawcett)	
9	Holi Purim (10 th Mar)	Courage (Esther – Bible)	
10	World Poetry Day (21 st Mar) Mother's Day (22 nd Mar) World Water Day (22 nd Mar)	Appreciation	
11	WORK TO THEME	Resilience	
12	Easter	Easter	

SUMMER TERM			
Week	National awareness days, religious festivals or events	Assembly themes	Liturgical Colour
1	St Georges Day (23 rd Apr) Earth Day (22 nd Apr)	Conservation Caring	
2	WORK TO THEME	Co-operation	
3	WORK TO THEME	Preparation	
4	WORK TO THEME	Identity Happiness Well-Being	
5	WORK TO THEME Thy Kingdom Come (begins 21 st May)	Honesty Trust	
HALF TERM			
6	World Environment Day (5 th June) Pentecost	Responsibility	
7	World Oceans Day (8 th June)	Thoughtfulness	
8	World Refugee Day (20 th June)	Refugees	
9	Windrush Day (22 nd Jun)	Culture Food Caribbean Local History (Newark)	
10	WORK TO THEME	Patience	
11	Secondary School Transitions	Friendship Transition	
12	Emiline Pankhurst's Birthday (14 th Jul)	Democracy	
13	End of Year!	Rest (Sabbath)	