



# St Peter's

Church of England (Aided) Junior School

Learning and Living Life in all its Fullness

John 10:10 – 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'.  
Inspired by John 10:10, we strive for all members of our community to learn and live  
*'Life in all its Fullness'*.

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

St. Peter's School is a Voluntary Aided Church of England Junior School and as such has a Christian tradition and ethos. Our collective worship reflects and reinforces our vision and ethos of *'Life in all its Fullness'*. Our collective worship both implicitly, and explicitly, demonstrates our Christian Values of Celebration, Collaboration, Respect, Responsibility, Service and Truth.

At St. Peter's, we consider collective worship to be a special part of the school day. An opportunity to reflect and develop the school's distinctive Christian character but also an opportunity to enhance the academic achievement, personal development and well-being of pupils and staff.

The members of staff responsible for Collective Worship are Carmella Reece and Elizabeth Rowlandson.

### Our Vision

Our Christian vision is inspired by John 10:10: *'I have come that they may have life, life in all its fullness'*.

In celebration of the loving gift of life, which we believe that Jesus offers to all in abundance, we strive to *'Learn and Live - Life in all its Fullness'*. As members of St. Peter's school, we are encouraged by the lessons we see in the life and learning of St. Peter, who challenges us to extend fullness of life to our local and global community as we seek to *'use whatever gift you have received to serve others'* (1 Peter 4:10).

### Our Aims

We believe that collective worship should be inclusive, invitational and inspiring for all children, staff, parents and visitors.

We aim for our collective worship to:

- Provide opportunities for all children and adults to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible.
- Enable spiritual growth through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- Develop skills of respect and reverence, helping children and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world.
- Create opportunities for all children and adults to explore and express what they believe.
- Inspire children and adults to listen with open minds and respond with open hearts.
- Nurture a sense of belonging within our school, local and global community, enriched by our local church community partnerships.
- Celebrate and express our vision and shared values.

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- Enable worship 'in all its fullness', enabling children and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways, including through love and service in our everyday lives.
- Engage both children and adults in planning, leading and evaluating our provision.

### Collective Worship in the life of our school

At St Peter's, collective worship is at the heart of each school day, affirming and celebrating the values and ethos of our school. Collective Worship is planned to incorporate the principles of equality and to promote positive attitudes to diversity. This is the intended pattern for collective worship:

<p><b>Monday</b></p> <p><i>Collective Worship (whole school)</i></p>	<p>An expression of our vision and values, this whole school collective worship follows our planned theme, linked to Christian teachings. Led by a member of the staff team and supported by children on the Service Leader Team. Reflection and discussion time will always be included.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b></p> <p><i>Praising God (whole school)</i></p>	<p>Praising God through songs, hymns, music and words, together as a whole school community. Led by a member of the staff team, supported by our church community. This will include a topical reflection, including response to local and national news.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p><i>Church Visitor (whole school)</i></p>	<p>Encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible through storytelling, drama and prayer. Led by the Children's and School's Minister, Youth Minister and clergy from St. Peter's Church. Music will always be included.</p>
<p><b>Thursday</b></p> <p><i>Class Worship (class)</i></p>	<p>Discussion and reflection of our vision and values, together as a class community. Children's hopes, prayers and thoughts are captured in class Reflective Journals, which are featured in a defined area of the classroom. Led by the class teacher and supported by children on the Service Leader team.</p>
<p><b>Friday</b></p> <p><i>Celebration Assembly (whole school)</i></p>	<p>Presentation of special awards to recognise, reflect on and celebrate children's achievements and the school's successes. This whole school collective worship is led by the Headteacher and the staff team. A prayer and hymn will always be included.</p>

Through our collective worship, we aim to provide the following opportunities to:

- come together as a school community
- express praise and thanksgiving to God
- be still, silent and reflect
- share each other's joys and challenges
- explore the big questions of life and respond to national events

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- foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness
- reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Jesus
- affirm Christian values and attitudes, and develop an understanding of worldwide Christian traditions and beliefs
- celebrate special times in the Christian calendar
- reflect on Christian symbols and their use in worship
- worship through traditional and contemporary hymns and songs

### **Collective Worship Themes**

One theme will feature throughout the week, which will be introduced at the start of the week. A termly rota will be available on the school website.

Whole school themes explored in RHE will also be introduced each half term:

- Being Me in My World
- Celebrating Difference
- Dreams & Goals
- Healthy Me
- Relationships
- Changing Me

Class worship, led by the class teacher, follows a series of planning based on our vision and values, as well as providing the opportunity to mark and celebrate other events, including planning provided by the Guildford Diocese. Our bespoke class worship planning includes:

- The life and work of St. Peter and the House Saints
- Bible stories based on our school values
- Jesus and Life in all its Fullness

### **Additional Collective worship**

Collective Worship takes place at St. Peter's Church to celebrate events in the Church calendar. These traditionally include Christmas, Harvest and Easter. Other special occasions include the Year 3 Welcome Service and the Year 6 Leavers Service.

Staff Reflection and Parent/Governor Prayer Group will be led before school once a half term by a member of staff (licensed lay minister at St. Peter's Church) and open to all.

A Pause Day will be held each year to celebrate Easter.

A prayer/reflection space will be available to the whole school community throughout the year. Additional Prayer Spaces will be led by the children and St. Peter's Church to mark and celebrate key events.

The school's Worship Committee (Service Leaders) will act as a channel for all children to voice their ideas for developing Worship in the school and, where possible, will exchange ideas with other schools.

### **Our School Prayer**

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The special words of our School Prayer below are learnt by children and adults and shared on a weekly basis. Through Collective Worship and Prayer Space, children and adults are enabled to reflect on and offer their own prayers, while also joining in with collective prayers linked to planned themes.

*This is our school, let peace dwell here,*

*Let the rooms be filled with happiness,*

*Let love abide here,*

*Love of one another,*

*Love of humanity,*

*Love of life itself and love of God.*

*Let us remember that as many hands build a house,*

*So many hearts make a school.*

## **Legal Requirements**

The law requires the Headteacher and Governing Body to provide a daily act of collective worship, which is in line with the school's Trust Deed and Foundation. The school meets with this requirement and this requirement is explained to all involved in the planning and delivery of acts of worship.

## **Right of Withdrawal**

We hope that all our children will participate in our collective worship. However, participation in worship is not obligatory and parents or guardians who wish to withdraw their children are asked to discuss their decision with the Headteacher. Worship is not delivered with the assumption that everyone is a Christian.

## **Governors**

We welcome Governors' attendance at our assemblies at any time.

## **Monitoring, Review and Inspection**

It is the role of the Governors to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship. A half-termly evaluation of collective worship will be led in partnership with the Service Leaders and Church-School Group.

The School will also be inspected through Section 48 SIAMS inspection.