

Stradbroke CE Primary School

Collective Worship/SMSC Statement



Aims and objectives

At Stradbroke Primary School, we aim to create a safe and nurturing environment which allows children opportunities to develop their own beliefs, as well as understanding those of others. The development of Collective Worship is important to encourage children to consider their own beliefs and ensure their spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is woven throughout the curriculum and a part of everyday life.

Our aims:

- † To give opportunities for those who wish to worship God.
- † To introduce individuals to the distinctiveness of the Christian Tradition and God as a Trinity.
- † To help individuals to develop a sense of awe and wonder at the world around them and encourage their care and concern for all that is created.
- † To offer a spiritual dimension to individuals which they can apply to their lives and personal relationships.
- † To provide regular time and opportunities for reflection, to enable individuals to reflect on broader and more lasting concerns of life.
- † To provide opportunities to enjoy the unity which derives from sharing friendships, acceptance, joys, hopes, fears, etc.
- † To develop an awareness of the needs of others as well as personal needs.
- † To provide time to share achievements, thoughts, ideas and opinions and acknowledging the creativity of others. Encouraging celebrations of giftedness as well as differences and diversity.
- † To help and encourage individuals to develop shared values from our three-year rolling plan.
- † To give individuals the experience of being members of and taking part in a caring community.
- † To encourage individuals to respond in a compassionate and civilised way to experiences of unfairness, injustice, greed, etc.

Planning

The Collective Worship coordinator has the responsibility of planning for the values each half-term and promoting them across the school. The Junior Ethos Committee are also involved in planning and leading assemblies, as well as contributing ideas towards Values activities in classes each half term.

Purchasing of resources is the responsibility of the Head Teacher. An allocation is made in the annual budget that varies according to need.

Organisation

The school follows a pattern of values on a three-year rolling plan, with each value lasting for a half-term. Head of School, Class Teachers, children, Pastors and Reverends all contribute towards each value to facilitate effective planning and to ensure continuity. The Pastors and Reverends lead assemblies including biblical stories and references. Open the Book also tell Bible stories by bringing them to life and encouraging participation from the children to increase their understanding and engagement.

For special occasions, such as Harvest Festival, Christingle, Easter and the end of school year service, the school holds acts of worship in All Saints Church, Stradbroke. Each class contributes to services in their own way and there are whole congregation parts, such as singing and collective worship.

Monday	Value for Life	Staff
Tuesday	Bible Story/Singing Assembly (songs link to current Value for Life)	Pastors/Staff
Wednesday	Bible Story/Singing Assembly (songs link to current Value for Life)	Pastors/Staff
Thursday	Story linked to the Value	Reverends/Staff
Friday	Celebration Assembly	Head of School

Collective Worship usually takes place in the Hall as a whole school. It is important to establish a distinctive atmosphere and that this is adhered to by all those who take part. The school makes use of candles, music, hymns, artefacts and appropriate illustrative items of the main themes within the Church year. Our Collective Worship display board helps to focus the children's attention and prayers allow for a time of personal reflection. The acts of collective worship are planned to provide the children with a variety of experiences and enable them to reflect upon their own lives. Experiences include story-telling from the Bible as well as other cultures and religions to broaden horizons. They also include discussion, poetry, drama, music and visiting speakers. The children are given the opportunity to respond to these experiences through shared discussion, silent reflection, spoken prayer and singing songs. Prayers used can include those spoken by the children, traditional prayers or short prayers specifically linking to the values. The meaning and use of 'Amen' is explained to children and they are given the opportunity to use it to make prayers their own.

The Prayer Space is an opportunity for children to have quiet time in school and reflect upon themselves. Prayer boxes are also available to encourage the children to write their own prayers. This allows them to share their thoughts during Collective Worship ('Sharing Prayers' box) but also express their thoughts more privately using the 'Private Prayers' box.

All parents are advised of their right to withdraw their children from the collective act of worship.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

As part of everyday life in our school, we plan opportunities for individuals to develop their spiritual development where possible. By encouraging them to consider other ways of thinking and believing, children develop their own sense of spiritual development. Encouraging children to discuss and debate possible scenarios allows them to consider moral outcomes.

Each of the sections below highlight how children are given opportunities to develop their SMSC understanding and how they demonstrate this throughout their school life:

Spiritually

- Collective Worship opportunities each day to allow for reflection and individual expression (assemblies and class prayers)
- Developing an understanding of their own beliefs and others' by learning about different cultures and events
- Learning from others to develop their own beliefs and values
- Showing respect for others
- Demonstrating creativity and uniqueness in their learning and understanding

Morally

- Being able to explain right and wrong in given situations
- Opportunities for whole school events to support charities and understanding why this is important
- Demonstrating our positive behaviour policy; incidences are resolved so that all parties feel listened to and there is a fair outcome
- Having an understanding of wider world events and engaging in discussions around these

Socially

- Feeling confident to share own opinions and thoughts
- Conversing with peers effectively
- Building positive relationships with peers and adults
- Extremely positive comments about the children's behaviour when out of the school environment – demonstrates expectations of behaviour and values
- Given opportunities to have responsibilities (increasing as they move through the school) and celebrating achievements

Culturally

- Very inclusive environment, all children given opportunities and adaptations made to ensure all can be included
- Opportunities to learn about different cultures and asking questions sensitively
- Understanding of the wider world beyond themselves and their families
- Enthusiasm to participate in activities linked to world events

Equal Opportunities

We will ensure that all children are provided with the same opportunities whatever their social class, gender, culture, race, disability or special educational needs (SEN). As a result, we encourage and enable all children to develop a positive attitude towards others. All pupils have equal access to Collective Worship and parents/carers have the right to withdraw children if they wish.

Monitoring and Review

The Ethos Committee monitors the development of Collective Worship throughout the school, made up of governors and teaching staff in school. The Ethos Committee also

assumes the role of promoting accountability and providing a voice to improve planning and implementation of Collective Worship.

A Junior Ethos Committee represents the thoughts and ideas of the children throughout the school. They are voted for by their peers and represent each year group in the school. They listen to their peers and implement ideas to develop Collective Worship, as well as attending regular meetings and evaluating assemblies.

This guidance is monitored by all teaching staff with the leadership team. It will be reviewed when changes are made to the curriculum.