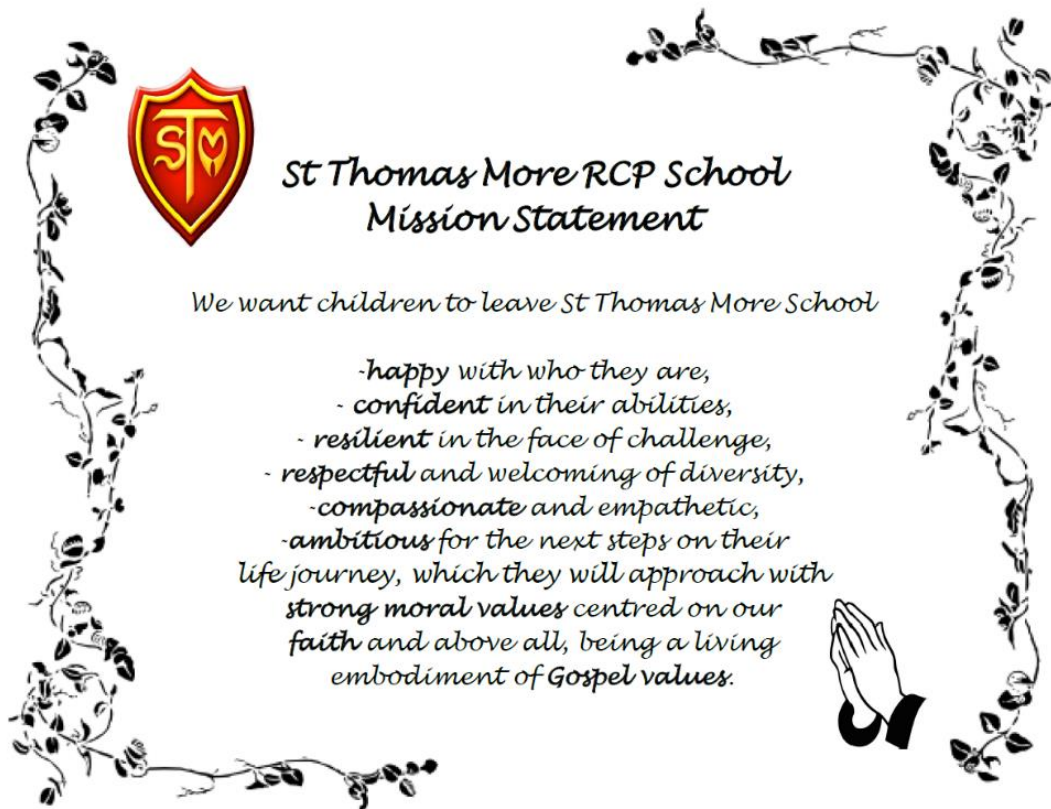


St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Collective Worship Policy



Aims

- To give thanks and praise to God
- To deepen pupils' awareness of the Liturgical Year
- To develop the prayer life of the community
- To promote spiritual and moral values in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church

Objectives

- To encourage the active participation of staff and pupils in worship, encouraging different groups to take responsibility for preparation and delivery
- To relate spiritual and moral values to the daily life of the school
- To celebrate the liturgical life of the Church
- To celebrate cultural diversity in forms of music, dance, drama

RE Coordinators

Our RE Coordinators are Mrs Dolan and Miss Bowles.

Overview of Scheme

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School uses 'The Way, the Truth, the Life' to teach RE. This is supported by resources such as CAFOD, Ten:Ten and Life to the Full Plus (PSHE/RHE). It allows children to learn about the Catholic faith in a range of ways and allows them to relate this to their own lives and builds in time for the children to reflect.

Collective Worship

At St Thomas More Catholic Primary school, we come together in our key stages and as a whole school for collective worship. Collective consists of a group of people coming together at an appropriate time, in an appropriate place, intentionally to focus upon things of worth and value for the group. This may be within the school hall or the classrooms. Collective worship gives us:

- A sense of special time
- A sense of special place
- The intention of focusing on matters of worth ‘beyond the everyday’
- A sense of occasion

Times of collective worship are educational, planned learning experiences and contribute to the education of the children, facilitate spiritual growth and respect of each other’s religious beliefs and their practises. This may be done by evoking the sense of beauty, awe, wonder or feelings of pride, pity, sharing or by exploring the spirituality of life and experience. Collective worship has its own place in the curriculum but it is also spontaneous. The RE Coordinators take a lead in promoting collective worship and they help other children to learn the important prayers that will follow them throughout their lives.

Day	Focus	Where	When
Each Half Term	Children and Class Teacher prepare Collective Worship for the term. Children work in groups with a focus, share their ideas for choices of readings, themes and prayers. The atmosphere will always be prayerful.	Classroom	Day 1 of each new half term
Monday	All classes attend assembly in the school hall. A key question related to one of our Christian values is explored through Bible stories and scripture and CST.	School Hall	9:05am-9:30am
Tuesday	Whole school singing worship with our music specialist and parishioner and RE Coordinators.	School Hall	1:30pm-1:50pm
Wednesday	KS1/EYFS Assembly KS2 Collective Worship	School Hall Classroom	
Thursday	KS2 Assembly KS1/EYFS Collective Worship	School Hall Classroom	
Friday	All classes attend celebration worship in the school hall. The key question is revisited and children.		

Planning

At St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, we encourage and promote the relationship of each one of us with Jesus Christ and promote the Christian ethics through a particular focus upon key elements of the Catholic teaching and to deepen our understanding of it. We provide experience of collective acts with a particular emphasis on prayer, reflection and worship in recognition of all that we do together to promote a sense of belonging. Children are proactive in planning and delivery of collective worship, assemblies and whole school Masses. We allow a diverse range of worship styles including prayer, singing, dancing, instrumental playing, drama, personal reflection and listening. We invite outside speakers to share their experience of different times and places and emphasise the difference between the liturgical part of school assemblies.

During collective worship, children and staff will pay particular attention to creating an inspiring atmosphere conducive to prayer, reflection, worship – a sense of awe (a focal point, use music, lighting, scripture, word focus etc). Themes will help children explore the Liturgical year, our values and celebrate children’s achievements; gifts and talents. All staff will ensure that throughout the act of collective worship children:

- Act with reverence and respect
- Are inspired
- Participate enthusiastically
- Challenged to put the teaching into practice

A planning structure for Acts of Collective Worship are available based on the four-part structure and our Ten:Ten resources are created in this format:

- Gather
- Read
- Respond
- Go forth

This policy will be reviewed on a regular basis. The review will assess its implementation and effectiveness and take into account any recent new guidelines.

Review Date: February 2024

Next Review Date: February 2025