



St Leonard's Church of England Primary School

Worship Policy



Worship Policy

Our School Vision

In Jesus' footsteps...



...we will grow in grace and knowledge.

At St Leonard's, children will understand that God's grace is the gift given freely out of unconditional love and that **all** are precious. By following in Jesus' footsteps, with pupil promises at the heart of everything we do, we are shaping confident, thoughtful, courageous advocates of the future and growing God's kingdom on Earth.

By following Christ's example we **"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ."**

2 Peter 3:18

As a school community we...



Sharing Faith and Hope

We provide a holistic learning journey and curriculum that enables reflection and spiritual growth including collective worship, teaching about Christianity and other world faiths.



Love and Value All

Rooted in love with St. Leonard as a model, we develop children's ability to be courageous advocates who act with a strong sense of inclusion, acceptance, justice and equality for all.



Learn, Remember and Do

Through curriculum challenge, enrichment and high expectations we inspire children to love learning deeply, and use their acquired knowledge, skills and talents for the greater good and in service to others.



Aspire, Flourish and Shine

Together we cherish and celebrate children's achievements, giving them the confidence to aspire to be the best they can be and to shine their light on their school and community.



This vision and mission is central to all that we do and is visible throughout our school in this manner:



Our approach to worship

We were created to worship God. Collective prayer and worship are an essential and integral feature of our daily activities as a Christian community. They are the means by which we maintain our relationship with God who is the source of our life. It is the way in which we share with each other the faith upon which our school community is built.

We are truly blessed that our staff represent the full spectrum of Christian practice, from high church to evangelical Anglicans, and everything in between. We feel that this depth and diversity of approach to worship is extremely healthy for our pupils and equips them to make genuinely informed choices about their own relationship with God as they develop and grow.

Our Mission Statement is the basis of all that we do and the foundation we build upon is 2 Peter 3:18 – 'Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.' Our pupils sing this in the form of 'The Grace' at the end of each Collective Worship:

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
And the love of God our Father
And the fellowship, the fellowship,
Of the Holy Spirit be with us
Forevermore and evermore,
And evermore
Amen.

It is this 'grace' that takes us all, as a school community, into the rest of our learning and interactions with others where we live this out by following in Jesus' footsteps.



Organisation

We aim to provide a variety of worship experiences for the children. Our current schedule is as follows:

Monday	Whole school worship (<i>usually at St. Leonard's Church</i>)
Tuesday	EYFS/KS1 Celebration Worship KS2 in Class Worship
Wednesday	Whole school worship: Praise and Prayer
Thursday	KS2 Celebration Worship EYFS/KS1 in Class Worship
Friday	Whole school worship (<i>usually at St. Leonard's Church</i>)

Content

Whole School Worship – Monday

The content of this worship is based upon the Anglican lectionary which is part of liturgical cycle of the church year. This is important to us as a Church school family where we build upon the teaching in our local Parish.

Celebration Worship – Tuesday/Thursday

This is a time to celebrate the areas of learning where pupils have been the best they can be at following in Jesus' footsteps. Parents are invited to attend and enjoy those achievements with us.

Class Worship – Tuesday/Thursday

A time where pupils worship together as a class. We reflect and interact with each other in a more dynamic way to allow a different experience of worship. Resources used include the Zuri Project Uganda, the Christian version of Picture news and our new approach of Worship Leaders' recorded worship.

Praise and Prayer – Wednesday

Mrs Cronshaw leads us in vocal worship where we learn more about the biblical context of the songs we sing and reflect on our praise in prayer.

Whole School Worship – Friday

This worship has a fortnightly pattern:

Week A – Pupil led worship (where parents are invited to attend).

Week B – Worship across the Diocese (where clergy and others for the diocese produce a shared act of worship).

Delivery

Our school is fortunate to have a staff team who all take part in leading worship. This is important to us as it embeds within our pupils the understanding that worship is a normal, regular and daily part of life in which all can take part. Not only that, we have a strong team of pupil worship leaders who record their reflections on each act of worship in a form that pupils can then access and use as a source of reflection or comfort.



Our school family Church is an integral part of St Leonard's and as such we enjoy every opportunity we have to both meet in the church building and hear from the ministerial team there.

We enjoy engaging with the Diocesan worship which enables our pupils to feel and know that they are part of a larger worshipping community. We are also very fortunate to include Bishop Philip, our diocesan Bishop, as a leader of a worship at our school and look forward to continued visits from the diocesan team.

Prayer

Prayer is a central part of our worship at St Leonard's. Pupils are able to write prayers which are put on the altar and are used during our whole school worship. Each class has their own prayer box which is used for individual prayer and reflection. To partake in communal prayer, we also have our own school prayers:

Whole School Prayer:

Lord,
Teach us how to keep your day,
Lead and bless us on our way,
Christ within our hearts and minds,
Your care and love forever binds.
Amen

Lunchtime Prayer:

Bless us, oh Lord,
As we sit together.
Bless the food we eat today.
Bless the hands that made the food.
Bless us, oh Lord.
Amen.

End of Day Prayer:

Lord,
Keep us safe this night,
Secure from all our fears,
May angels guard us while we sleep,
Til morning light appears.
Amen.

The Legal Requirements

We acknowledge the legal requirement stated in the 1988 Education Reform Act 6 (1) and 9 (3), which states the need for each child to attend a daily act of worship either as a whole school, class or group. Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from the act of worship either partially or wholly. Any parents wishing to do so should contact the Head teacher. Teachers also have the right to withdraw from leading and taking part in worship.



Worship lead: Mr Robin Colpman and Mrs Hannah Pountain
Headteacher: Mrs Dawn Lindley