

St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School



Worship Policy

Reviewed : **September 2023**

ST. ANNE LINE CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL



Worship Policy

**Wickhay,
Basildon
Essex.
SS15 5AF**

Date of Policy: September 2023
Date last review adopted by Governing Body: June 2020
Date of next review: September 2026

**With Jesus, through the St Anne Line Way,
We Love, We Learn, We Share, We Pray.**

Together, we grow Our School each day

WORSHIP POLICY

At St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School there is a vibrant worship life with ample opportunities for children's liturgies and times of prayer and reflection.

The worshipping nature of our school

The worshipping nature of our school is expressed in a variety of ways. These are:

- Assemblies
- Masses
- Lenten & Advent Reconciliation Services

Purposes

These include:

- Worshipping together
- Reflecting on the Ethos of the School
- Being informed of administrative arrangements
- Reflecting upon various aspects of school life/sharing learning experiences

- Listening to stories e.g. Book Week
- Celebrating individual or group achievements
- Engaging and involving pupils in the process of drawing up the Mission Statement
- Listening to a visiting speaker

All assemblies have a **clarity** of purpose where children receive a daily opportunity of meeting the **Living God**.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement for St. Anne Line Catholic Junior School was compiled by staff. It was reviewed during a whole staff training day, where staff created updated visions in groups. Pupils also involved themselves culminating in a fresh revised mission statement. It is displayed in prominent places in the school eg. the outer entrance hall, and in each classroom.

Assemblies

The format for our assemblies is as follows:

Monday

A whole school Liturgy Assembly is led by the Deputy Headteacher.

Tuesday

Hymn Practice

Wednesday

A whole school Our History Matters (OHM) is led by on a rotational basis led by a class teacher.

Thursday

Class Assemblies – Morning Prayer

Friday

A whole school Celebration Assembly led by the Head Teacher

Additional Class Worship – Prayers and reflection occur in every class on a daily basis. The times for this are generally 8.50 am for Morning Prayer, 12:25 Grace before meals and 2.55 pm for Afternoon Prayer. Additional times occur within the RE lessons and at moments during the day at the class teacher’s discretion.

Monitoring

The Faith Council and RE Subject Lead monitor class-based worship.

Masses

Whole school Masses take place on the following days:

- Start of the new academic year - Term 1
- The Feast of All Saints
- The Feast of Saint Anne Line - Term 2
- Ash Wednesday Mass - Term 2
- First Holy Communicants ‘Going Forth Mass’ - Term 3
- Corpus Christi
- SS Peter and Paul Mass
- Leavers’ Mass – Term 3

Year group Masses lead the above Masses at 9.30am at the church. Parishioners attend these masses too.

Chaplaincy provision entails the parish priest visiting each class, developing the spirituality of the St. Anne Line Community.

Sacramental Preparation

First Holy Communion preparation occurs at Our Lady and All Saints’ Parish which encompasses Holy Trinity Church, St Basil’s Church and St Therese’ Church. Catechists are parishioners – some catechists are current school staff. Children prepare for their First Holy Communion on Saturdays. A whole school Mass led by the First Holy Communicants is celebrated after the Parish based Going Forth Mass.

Reconciliation Services

School Reconciliation services take place during Advent and Lent.

Prayer

Formal prayer is said each morning and afternoon in every class.

Morning Prayer

Father in heaven you love me
You are with me night and day
I want to love you always
In all I do and say.
I'll try to please you Father
Bless me through the day.
Amen

Afternoon Prayer

God Our Father I come to say
Thank you for your love today
Thank you for my family,
And all the friends you give to me.
Guard me in the dark of night
And in the morning send your light.
Amen

Other formal prayers such as the Our Father, the Hail Mary, Glory Be, the Hail Holy Queen, the Magnificat, the Memorare and the Angelus are said in assemblies.

Mission Song

You and me
We are individuals
Community – that's where we belong
Live like God
Really, really wants us to.
Learning each day to achieve our future plans.

Liturgical Prayer

Children learn the liturgy prayers e.g. the Gloria and the Apostles Creed

Reflective Prayer

This is a regular feature of assemblies, RE lessons, and times of worship in the classroom. The Word of God resource cards by Monica Brown are used.

Meditation

Meditation is a popular form of prayer in the school. It typically features a period of silence where a mantra (a phrase which is repeated) is focussed on by the children eg 'Jesus loves me very much'. Meditation and reflection normally take place after lunch at 1:20pm.

Prayer Focus

Every classroom has a prayer focus with vocabulary linked to the current RE Come and See topic. Symbols and children's written work is also displayed. The hall displays a beautiful picture of 'The Saint Anne Line Way' on the wall as a focal point.

Hymn Practice

A regular hymn practice is held on Tuesdays from 8.55 to 9.20 am. It is led by the RE Lead with assistance from a Year Group Team, on rotation. A wide variety of hymns relevant to the **Come and See** topic, forthcoming Masses, RE themes, assemblies, feast days etc. is covered.

The use of the piano and CDs with hall projector enable the children to access all hymns. Both reflective and livelier hymns form a balance to their experiences. The Team Ministry frequently comment upon the beautiful quality of the children's singing.

Liaisons with parish liturgists

The Head Teacher or RE Subject Lead meets regularly with the Parish Assistant Priest to discuss the Religious Education in school and any Special Liturgical events.

Leavers' Mass

The Leavers' Mass is led by Year 6 and is held in the church, during the school day with the whole school. The families of Year 6 attend this Mass.

Retreats

Year 6 engage in a dedicated Retreat Day in the Summer term, organised by the Year 6 staff and the Parish priest.

Teachers' retreats

A teachers' retreat staff meeting is held termly. Term 1 has an Advent theme. Term 2 has a Lenten theme. Teachers are led by the RE Subject Lead in prayer, reflection and singing. This strengthens the sense of team and provides the opportunity to reflect on the school ethos and values.

Governors

The RE Governor monitors both the RE and worshipping aspects of the school. The Governor reports formally to the Governing Body annually. Biannually, Governors monitor through visits, observation and interview, the aims and Mission of the school. Collective Worship is always an item on the FGB Agenda.

RE Inset

The RE Subject Lead, Head Teacher, Deputy Head, and ECTs attend Brentwood inset courses including the Annual RE Co-ordinators' Meeting, the Diocesan Headteachers' and Deputy Heads' Conferences, and specialised ECT courses.

Resources

Attached is a list.

Displays

In every classroom there is an attractive, eye-catching display which is relevant to the **Come & See** topic being covered. Liturgical cloths are used accordingly. Vocabulary, children's work and prayers are features of RE displays. There is always an RE display in the entrance hall.

From time to time there are displays of scriptural stories linked to themes in **Come & See** or festivals of the year in the school entrance hall.

Creative ways of enhancing Scripture Readings

Drama and dance are used frequently to enhance scripture e.g. the Prodigal Son story re-enactment during the Lenten Reconciliation service.

Artefacts

Artefacts are used as a focus to enhance displays. Resources are stored in the staff room and the altar for liturgies. The World Faiths' artefacts are especially useful – they complement children's learning of the Judaism and Hinduism topics covered in terms one and three.

Parish links

Each year, a beautiful celebratory concert of World Music organised by the parish takes place seeing many children from our school attending or participating.

A Rights' Respecting School

Saint Anne Line Catholic Junior School is a level one Rights' Respecting school. At the heart of our school is the Convention for the Rights of the Child (CRC). This is evident in our planning, policies, practice and ethos.

- **Standard A: Rights-respecting values underpin leadership and management**
The best interests of Saint Anne Line pupils are a top priority in all actions. The values and principles of the CRC at the heart of this policy.
- **Standard B: The whole school community learns about the CRC**
The Convention is made known to children and adults. They use this shared understanding to work for global justice and sustainable living.
- **Standard C: The school has a rights-respecting ethos**
Children and adults collaborate to develop and maintain a rights-respecting school community, based on the CRC, in all areas and in all aspects of school life.
- **Standard D: Children are empowered to become active citizens and learners**
Every child has the right to say what they think in all matters affecting them and to have their views taken seriously. Saint Anne Line pupils develop the confidence, through their experience of an inclusive rights-respecting school community, to play an active role in their own learning and to speak and act for the rights of all to be respected locally and globally.

