

## Collective Worship Policy

### Rationale

At St Margaret's C of E Primary School our desire is to develop quality acts of worship within the spirit and the letter of the 1988 Education Reform Act and in accordance with the principles and practice of the Church of England as laid down in the Trust Deed. We believe that worship plays an essential part in the life of our school since it contributes to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of the child, other subjects of the curriculum such as Music, English, Drama and RE and the ethos of the school.

Church schools must fulfil three main legal requirements for collective worship

- Provide an act of worship for all pupils every day
- Ensure that collective worship is in accordance with the Trust Deed of the school
- Include a statement in the school prospectus that makes it clear that parents may withdraw their children from all or any part of collective worship

At St Margaret's Primary School we believe that collective worship is

- A response to things of worth
- A time to gather our pupils, engage them, encourage response prior to sending out.
- A recognition of and response to the spiritual dimensions of human experience
- A celebration of love for God by believers
- An expression of praise and gratitude, of awe and wonder, and of love and compassion
- An invitation to participate or observe Worship can be achieved through a variety of media including music and hymns, words and scriptures, ritual, movement and drama, and stillness and reflection.

### Ethos

Do everything to the Glory of God

- ❖ Achieve your best
- ❖ Care for each other
- ❖ Trust in the Lord

### Aim

- To strengthen the community spirit of the school
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and mental development of the child
- To prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life
- To share emotions such as love, joy, hope, friendship, fear tolerance, understanding, forgiveness and reverence
- To give time to celebrate and give thanks for the beauty of life and living
- To appreciate that people differ and should be approached in a spirit of openness
- To allow time to reflect on success and failure and to encourage expressions of determination to always do one's best
- To create an atmosphere congenial to silent reflection, inner response and active participation
- To introduce children to the value of the Bible
- To give children practical experience of prayer
- To promote the understanding of the nature of God
- To introduce the children to the discipline of the Anglican liturgy in the broadest sense
- To demonstrate the Christian belief that God cares about us and the world