



Prayer and liturgy Policy

LEADER / CO-ORDINATORS	Mrs K. Gillard
GROUPS INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION	Headteacher Senior Leadership Team All Staff Governing Body Children Parents
LINK TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN	Priority 1 – Further develop the Catholic Life of the school and all that encompasses to ensure the school challenges itself further and remains outstanding in its delivery for all and places Jesus and the teachings of the Church at the centre of pupils' lives.

'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding; in all your ways, acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.'
Proverbs 3:5-6

1. Introduction and Aims

*"Worship is concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power."
(Circular 1/94)*

Prayer and liturgy at St Aidan's provides opportunities for pupils and staff to come together to worship God. It is rooted in the example and teachings of Jesus Christ whilst taking into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it. Prayer and liturgy is an educational experience or a reflection to which all can contribute and from which all can gain.

- Those who form part of the worshipping community in church;
- Those for whom school may be their first and only experience of church
- Those from other Christian traditions
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

2. Mission Statement

As stated in our school's Mission Statement, our 3 aims are to-

- ~ Have a sense of responsibility and take an active part in serving our world;
- ~ Have a growing understanding of Gospel Values and gather together in prayer and Worship;
- ~ Have a passion for learning and an enjoyment for discovery

"Hand in Hand,

In the image of Jesus,

We grow together and celebrate who we are."

The staff of St. Aidan's Catholic Primary School will work to give each child the entitlement of a broad, balanced, differentiated curriculum (irrespective of ability) encouraging in every individual a sense of self-worth and self-esteem. All teaching and learning is underpinned by the school mission statement.



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3. Audience

This Prayer and liturgy policy document is available to:

Teaching and Support Staff

Governors

Parents and other visitors to the staffroom

Supply Teachers

Inspectors

Copies of this policy are available through the school website and also through the school office on request.

4. The Aims and Objectives of Prayer and liturgy

Through our prayer and liturgy together we aim to:

- To reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- To reflect on personal beliefs
- To develop community spirit
- To respond to and celebrate life
- To reinforce positive attitudes
- To contemplate something of the mystery of God
- To enable and encourage a sense of belonging
- To encourage a common ethos and shared values
- To build a firm foundation for liturgy
- To enrich the religious experience of children and staff
- To mark as special
- To give worth to
- To wonder at
- To take time out
- To come to terms with...

5. The Overview of Prayer and liturgy

Who should be involved in Prayer and liturgy?

- Pupils – they must have the opportunity to take part in daily Prayer and liturgy
- Teachers – they plan and enable Prayer and liturgy to take place each day
- All staff – they are invited to participate in all acts of Prayer and liturgy
- Parents – they too are invited to participate in acts of Prayer and liturgy during class assemblies, meetings for Sacramental preparation etc.

Where should Prayer and liturgy take place?

- In the classrooms
- In the hall
- In church
- In the open if appropriate

When should Prayer and liturgy take place?

Prayer and liturgy need not occur at the beginning of the day but rather at the time that is most appropriate for us as a school to ensure that it is a meaningful and prayerful opportunity for all participants.

How should Prayer and liturgy be delivered?

- Can be led by pupils, staff or visitors
- Can be offered for a class, a year group, a phase or whole school



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- Should use a balance of quiet reflection, silence, prayers, responses, music, songs, dance, drama, slides, video or short address
- Should provide a focus using artefacts, candles, symbols and lighting
- Ensures the theme, focus, delivery, length and resources are appropriate to the interests, age range, backgrounds and abilities of the pupils
- Respect the freedom of the pupils and staff in the invitation to prayer and worship
- Set an appropriate atmosphere with a sense of order and occasion, including entry and exit
- Ensure the possibility of conscious, active participation of all present

6. Curriculum and School Organisation

How should Prayer and liturgy be planned, recorded and evaluated?

Planned

- Through with reference to the church's seasons, significant dates and the Come and See curriculum
- With the flexibility to respond to changing situations within the school and the wider community

Recorded

- Through displays, prayers, photographs etc
- Through Archdiocese planning to keep note of themes, leaders, pupil groupings

Evaluated

- By staff and pupils on a regular basis

Opportunities provided for Prayer and liturgy

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Foundation Stage

Foundation stage staff do their own Prayer and liturgy within their own settings, however, during the summer term, Nursery visit Foundation Stage for Prayer and liturgy to help with transition.

Key Stage One

Monday	-	Within class setting
Tuesday	-	In hall during hymn practice
Wednesday	-	Within class setting
Thursday	-	In hall during Assembly
Friday	-	Within class setting

Key Stage Two

Monday	-	In hall during hymn practice
Tuesday	-	Within class setting
Wednesday	-	In hall during Assembly
Thursday	-	Within class setting
Friday	-	Within class setting

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from daily Prayer and liturgy

Class Prayer and liturgy

There will be a series of whole class Prayer and liturgy's throughout the year to which parents will be invited.

Whole School

Throughout the year pupils participate in mass, and deliver seasonal services for parents and members of the community Eg. Advent, Carol service, Ash Wednesday, Easter service, Corpus Christi, St. Peter and Paul etc.



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Leavers

A special Mass is celebrated at the end of the academic year, which recalls the children's journey through our school and points them towards their future lives in Secondary School.

7. The role of the Governors

Our governors determine, support, monitor and review the school's approach to teaching and learning. In particular they:

- Support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively;
- Ensure that the school buildings and premises are used optimally to support teaching and learning;
- Check teaching methods in the light of health and safety regulations;
- Seek to ensure that our staff development and our performance management both promote good quality teaching;
- Monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning approaches through the school's self-review processes, which include reports from subject leaders and the termly Headteacher's report to governors.

8. The role of Parents

We believe that parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. Every effort is made to inform parents about what and how their children are learning by:

- Holding parents' evenings to explain pupil progress.
- Sending information to parents, at the start of each term, which outlines the topics that the children will be studying during that term at school;
- Sending parents regular reports in which we explain the progress made by each child, and indicate how the child can improve further;
- Explaining to parents how they can support their children with homework, and suggesting, for example, regular shared reading with very young children, and support for older children with their projects and investigative work.

We believe that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school in implementing school policies. We would therefore like parents to:

- Ensure that their child has the best attendance record possible;
- Ensure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit;
- Do their best to keep their child healthy and fit to attend school;
- Inform school if there are matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour
- Promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general;

9. Monitoring and Review

We are aware of the need to monitor the school's Prayer and liturgy policy, and to review it regularly, so that we can take account of new initiatives and research, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school. We will therefore review this policy every three years, or earlier if necessary.

This policy was last up-dated on	September 2025
Discussed and agreed with Governors	Quality of Education 10 th November 2025
Formal Review of Policy	September 2027

Signed: _____
Headteacher, Mrs J. M. Farrimond

Chair of Committee