

ST. MARY & ST. MARGARET'S  
CE (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL



**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY**

October 2022

## **School Values**

Our School Values set the ethos in which this policy is grounded:

We believe that St Mary and St Margaret's CE Primary School exists to enable every child to realise his or her potential to the fullest possible extent, whatever his or her particular needs and abilities. We aim to help all children to be the best they can be by 'living life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

To this end, we promote our agreed School Values:

- Growing as a child of God
- Loving learning
- Caring
- Achieving
- Personal development

## **Collective worship at St Mary & St Margaret's**

Collective worship is central to the life of our school. St Mary & St Margaret's is a Church of England primary school where every child is welcomed, valued and loved. We aim to serve the local community by providing each child with the education they need to be the best they can be and each family the support they need to thrive. We aim to teach children to look beyond themselves and to serve each other with love. We share this message through our daily act of Collective Worship, using it to bring the St Mary & St Margaret's family together in strengthening the understanding of our school values and the ethos of our school. This worship is a central part of our school life and fulfils the statutory requirements common to all schools according to the 1988 Education reform act (and consolidated in the 1996 Education Act).

As a Church of England school, Collective Worship is Christian and reflects Anglican traditions and practices. Although we are a church school, our school community is made up of people from a range of backgrounds, including various faith backgrounds and those of no faith. We therefore seek to ensure that our worship is inclusive to those of all faiths and none. Our aim is that our worship gives all children the opportunity, without compulsion, to grow in their own faith, whatever that might be, through experiences of prayers, stillness, worship and reflection.

At St Mary & St Margaret's, we invite our pupils, staff, governors, parents and visitors to come together to engage in an act of worship which is rooted both in the Christian faith and in our school values (which are in turn each rooted in the Bible – see Appendix 1).

In doing so we aim to:

- Provide an opportunity for people to worship God, to explore their own beliefs and to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- To engage in an act of community and to develop in children a sense of community spirit and belonging.
- Give opportunity for people to reflect on the character of God and on the teachings of Jesus and other aspects of the Bible and consider how these may apply to them personally.
- Teach people to look beyond themselves and to use their gifts to care for and demonstrate love to others.
- Teach people to interact with one another positively, expressing the characteristics defined in the Bible as the "Fruits of the Spirit": love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5: 22-23).
- Give individuals the space to be still and reflect on their own faith, their values and the choices they make in life. To consider how their actions impact others, how to live well and to take time to deepen their spiritual awareness.

- Spend time appreciating how relevant faith is in today's world. To use this to respond to issues in school, concerns that are close to the community and make sense of national events which impact on people's lives.
- Come together to celebrate special times in the Christian calendar. We also acknowledge key celebrations in other religions which are important to the families in our school community. We come together to celebrate our children's achievements and successes.
- Develop in children a sense of awe and wonder.
- Promote a common ethos, affirming our Christian values, and to reinforce positive attitudes.
- Teach children different ways in which they can worship.
- Give people opportunity to express praise and thanksgiving to God.

Our aim is to create an atmosphere in which genuine worship may take place and where pupils' own beliefs are valued, and each has the opportunity to respond in his or her own way. Collective worship is a distinctive and special part of the school day. It may include aspects of learning about faith but is primarily about focussing attention on spiritual matters. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and develop faith and our school values. It also provides a daily opportunity to enhance pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Pupils meet each day to celebrate Christian beliefs, teachings and festivals through stories, illustrations, role play, quiet contemplation and discussion. Festivals and events from other cultures are recognised on these occasions when appropriate. The Rector, the Headteacher, teaching staff, visitors and pupils lead acts of collective worship.

The pattern of collective worship varies weekly, although a typical week is as follows:

Monday 9.25am	<b>Whole School Head/Deputy-led Worship</b> , based on the current PSHE theme or our School Values. This will often be in the form of a Bible story or illustration with a message.
Tuesday 9.25am	<b>Key Stage Worship</b> – introducing our weekly theme. Led by members of the key stage.
Wednesday (flexible)	<b>Online Worship</b> – Bible story worship led by the headteacher – stories from the Bible and consideration of how these link to our school values and how they might apply to our lives. <b>Worship in Church</b> – on Wednesdays, classes in Years 2 to 6 (on a rota basis) take part in worship at St Mary and St Margaret's Church, leading aspects such as prayers or Bible readings.
Thursday 9am	<b>Rector-led Worship</b> – continuing our weekly theme
Friday 2.50-3.10pm	<b>Musical Praise</b> – an opportunity to learn and join in singing hymns and songs of praise and worship, usually led by the headteacher or music subject leader

### **Legal Position regarding Collective Worship**

St Mary & St Margaret's School is a VA Church of England Primary School. In addition to the national legal requirement that there should be daily worship, as a church school, we have a Trust Deed which states that worship should be 'in accordance with the principles and practices of the Church of England' and in accordance with the School Ethos Statement in the statutory Instrument of Government. Collective Worship takes place every day for all pupils. As this is an aided school, members of staff are expected to attend the act of collective worship.

**We aim for our worship to be Inclusive, Invitational, and Inspiring** (Based on Guidance for Collective Worship, 2021; The Church of England Education Office):

**Inclusive**: Worship is collective in that it involves meeting, exploring, questioning, and responding

to others and, for some, to God. In our school pupils, families and other adults can expect to encounter worship that is inclusive of, and fully accessible to, all. Pupils and staff in our school come from homes of a variety of faith backgrounds, as well as of no faith background. Moreover, many pupils will naturally be at different stages of their spiritual journey during their time in our school. As part of our aim to help each pupil 'grow as a child of God', pupils should be given the opportunity to think and ask questions and to find their own identity and beliefs. There should be space to consent, and dissent: to participate and to stand back; and to consider. It is an expectation that care will be taken to ensure that the language used by those facilitating worship avoids assuming faith in all those participating, listening and watching.

Collective worship should not be 'done to' but will involve meaningful contributions from the whole school community, including pupils. It is recognised that pupils will bring their own experience to worship. Inclusion requires pupil involvement in planning, leading and the evaluation of worship. Our highly valued **Worship Leaders** take a key role in these aspects and work with our Headteacher to ensure worship is as effective, meaningful and purposeful as possible. Although part of a national legislative framework, collective worship in our school grows out of our local context and out of pupils' experience, including their cultural backgrounds.

**Invitational:** At St Mary and St Margaret's we try to ensure worship is consistently invitational. We aim to avoid compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship is intended to provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity. Pupils and adults should always only be invited to pray if they wish to do so and may be invited to pray in their own way. Prayer should always be accompanied by the option to reflect.

Helpful phrases to ensure worship is invitational might include the following:

- 'I'm going to invite you now to get ready for a time of prayer or reflection...'
- 'Let's quieten ourselves now as we prepare for a time of prayer or reflection...'
- 'At this point in our worship, we have an opportunity for us each to pray in our own way or to reflect as I say this prayer...'

**Inspiring:** Pupils and adults can expect the worship they encounter in our school to be inspirational. Worship is intended to be formational and transformational: it should enable pupils and adults to ask big questions about who we are and why we do what we do. It is intended to motivate pupils and adults into action, into thinking differently, and into reflecting on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions. As a result of inspirational collective worship, they should be inspired to become courageous advocates of causes. It should encourage them to think searchingly about their own faith, beliefs and/or philosophical convictions.

### **Organisation of collective worship**

We hold a daily act of collective worship. This forms part of each assembly, which can be a whole-school assembly, a phase assembly or a class assembly. Twenty minutes is allocated to assembly daily.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time includes a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in a respectful way. At times, we ask them to be quiet and thoughtful. Children are expected to listen carefully to the teachings, and to show respect in prayer times and the singing of hymns. Our children have created a **school prayer book** (Appendix 4) with prayers written by the children based on each of our school values – these prayers are often chosen by staff or children for use in collective worship (or in class). The children will learn our School Prayer and The Lord's Prayer, which are also included in the book, along with other prayers relevant to different times of the day or year. We create an appropriate atmosphere for worship by using music, the candle and cross or other objects, to focus the attention of the children. Worship may also be a joyful time, in which

children and adults celebrate the joy of knowing and loving God. This is often reflected in the songs of praise sung by the children.

Worship is normally conducted by the Rector (or other member of the local clergy), the headteacher, members of our pupil worship leader team, whole classes or other members of staff.

We have a termly plan of themes for worship. Staff use a range of books and websites for material. We take the themes of our worship from our school values, the traditions of the Christian faith, festivals and events of the Christian calendar and to respond to any needs in school or events in the world around us. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum, e.g. some worship times link to the current theme for our whole school work in Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE). Worship may also be directly linked to specific aspects of our School Values (above). We plan our worship times well in advance of the day they take place. (See example plan in Appendix 2.)

### **Worship Leaders**

We have a team of dedicated pupil worship leaders with a range of responsibilities. The position of Worship Leader is given a high status and profile in the school, with children in Years 5 and 6 allowed to apply to become a Worship Leader.

Worship Leaders play an important part in whole school and Key Stage 2 worship, ensuring the hall is ready for worship, leading the 'collect', choosing and leading prayers and operating audio-visual equipment. They also act as role models by modelling actions for worship songs.

Once per half term, a team of Worship Leaders plans and leads an entire worship session based on the Value of the Half Term.

The Worship Leaders meet with the Headteacher to evaluate worship and share ideas.

### **Achievement Assemblies**

Near the end of each half term, we share in a worship time to celebrate children's achievements, successes and positive influence during the half term. Children from each class are chosen for a special achievement award and parents are invited to come along to see them receive their awards. Awards are given for a wide range of achievements, with a focus on 'being the best you can be'. Reasons for awards might include: attainment or progress; being a kind friend; showing leadership qualities; being a role model; demonstrating school values such as perseverance, empathy, independence etc. or improving in a particular aspect of school life. Achievement assemblies include times of praise (e.g. through singing new songs learned that term) and thanksgiving (e.g. through prayers of thanks). Achievement assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school, ensuring that all children are valued and achievements are recognised. St Mary & St Margaret's School is a successful school and we shall continue to celebrate the successes of all our children at our assemblies.

### **Building Community**

Parents (and at times other members of the local community) are regularly invited to attend worship (for example, Thursday worship times led by the Rector). We encourage attendance as this promotes community spirit, gives opportunity to build positive relationships and reinforces how school and home can work together in support of the children.

Governors' attendance at our worship times is always welcome.

### **Evaluating Collective Worship**

We recognise the importance of monitoring, reviewing and implementing subsequent changes to our Collective Worship provision in order to give our school community a meaningful and relevant worship time.

We use a range of strategies to evaluate:

- Observation of engagement levels within a Collective worship
- Feedback from pupils (see Appendix 3 – Worship Evaluation)
- Level of participation in follow up activities
- Children’s general behaviour in and out of school, evidence of values being lived out
- Feedback from Governors following observations of Collective Worships
- Feedback from organisations or individuals who have visited or led worship
- Comments from parents via questionnaires or informal discussions after worship times

### **Right of Withdrawal from Collective Worship**

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. We hope that by keeping parents updated with our approach and through the inclusive nature of our worship that parents are comfortable for their child to take part. However, if a parent wishes to consider this option, we would ask that the Headteacher is approached.

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years.

Signed:

Date:

## APPENDIX 1

St Mary & St Margaret's CE Primary School  
**Helping each of us to be the best we can be by living 'life in all its fullness'**  
 (John 10:10)



### Our School Values – Bible Stories

Our School Values are rooted in scripture and each is linked to a different story from the Bible. These are listed below, along with other stories / readings which could also be used to illustrate each value:

GROWING AS A CHILD OF GOD	
Value	Story/Reading
<b>Faith</b>	<p><b>The Fiery Furnace</b> <i>Daniel 3</i></p> <p>Mary Obeys God <i>Luke 1:26-38</i></p> <p>The Faith of the Centurion <i>Matthew 8:5-13</i></p> <p>Jesus Walks on the Water <i>Matthew 14:22-33</i></p> <p>Noah &amp; The Flood <i>Genesis 6:1-9:17</i></p> <p>The Exodus <i>Exodus 11:31-14:31</i></p> <p>Joshua &amp; The Battle of Jericho <i>Joshua 5:13-6:21</i></p> <p>The Story of Gideon <i>Judges 6-8</i></p>
<b>Belonging</b>	<p><b>The Lost Sheep</b> <i>Luke 15:3-7</i> <i>(or Matthew 18:12-14)</i></p> <p>The Shepherds &amp; The Angels + The Three Wise Men <i>Luke 2:8-20</i> <i>Matthew 2:1-12</i></p> <p>The Good Samaritan <i>Luke 10:29-37</i></p> <p>The Lost Coin <i>Luke 15:8-10</i></p> <p>One Body Many Parts <i>1 Corinthians 12:12-27</i></p>
<b>Individual Liberty</b>	<p><b>Daniel in the Lions' Den</b> <i>Daniel 6</i></p> <p>The Story of Esther <i>Esther</i></p>

<b>LOVING LEARNING</b>	
<b>Value</b>	<b>Story/Reading</b>
<b>Creativity</b>	<b>God Creates the World</b> <i>Genesis 1:1-2:4a</i>
<b>Teamwork</b>	<b>The Four Friends</b> <i>Mark 2:1-12</i>  One Body Many Parts <i>1 Corinthians 12:12-27</i>
<b>Enthusiasm</b>	<b>The Parable of the Lamp</b> <i>Matthew 5:14-16</i>  Nehemiah Rebuilds the Walls of Jerusalem <i>Nehemiah 3-6</i>  Joseph's Coat <i>Genesis 37-50</i>
<b>CARING</b>	
<b>Value</b>	<b>Story/Reading</b>
<b>Sharing</b>	<b>The Feeding of the Five Thousand</b> <i>Luke 6:1-14</i>  The Rich Young Ruler <i>Mark 10:17-27</i>  The Pharisee and the Tax Collector <i>Luke 18:9-14</i>
<b>Love</b>	<b>The Love Chapter</b> <b>1 Corinthians 13:1-8a</b>  The Greatest Commandment <i>Matthew 22:34-40</i>  Nothing Can Separate Us From The Love of God <i>Romans 8:31-39</i>  The Crucifixion <i>Matthew 27:32-56</i>
<b>Empathy</b>	<b>Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet</b> <i>John 13:1-17</i>
<b>Mutual Respect &amp; Tolerance</b>	<b>The Good Samaritan</b> <i>Luke 10:29-37</i>  Zacchaeus The Tax Collector <i>Luke 19:1-10</i>
<b>ACHIEVING</b>	
<b>Story</b>	<b>Story/Reading</b>
<b>Aspiration</b>	<b>David &amp; Goliath</b> <i>1 Samuel 17:1-51</i>  Parable of the Talents <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>
<b>Excellence</b>	<b>Parable of the Talents</b> <i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>

	Run the Race <i>Hebrews 12:1-3</i>
<b>Perseverance</b>	<b>The Friend at Midnight</b> <b>Luke 11:5-13</b>  The Persistent Widow <i>Luke 18:1-8</i>  The Ten Plagues <i>Exodus 7-11</i>  Jesus In The Garden of Gethsemane <i>Matthew 26:36-46</i>  David & Goliath <i>1 Samuel 17:1-51</i>  Run The Race <i>Hebrews 12:1-3</i>
<b>PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<b>Story</b>	<b>Story/Reading</b>
<b>Confidence</b>	<b>Moses And The Burning Bush</b> <b>Exodus 3:1-4:17</b>  David & Goliath <i>1 Samuel 17:1-51</i>  I Can Do All Things <i>Philippians 4:13</i>
<b>Independence</b>	<b>Jesus at the Temple</b> <b>Luke 2:39-52</b>  Jesus is Tempted in the Desert <i>Luke 4:1-13</i>
<b>Forgiveness</b>	<b>The Lost Son</b> <b>Luke 15:11-24</b>  Peter's Denials & Restoration <i>Luke 22:54-62 and John 21:1-23</i>  The Unforgiving Servant <i>Matthew 18:21-35</i>  Joseph in Egypt <i>Genesis 37-50</i>
<b>Democracy &amp; The Rule of Law</b>	<b>Jesus is Questioned About Paying Taxes</b> <b>Mark 12:13-17</b>  Moses Receives the Ten Commandments <i>Deuteronomy 10</i>

## APPENDIX 2 – EXAMPLE WORSHIP PLAN

### AUTUMN TERM WORSHIP PLAN

Themes for each week, along with the person/class responsible for preparing Tuesday's worship session, are shown below, along with any significant variations.

Week beginning	Mon worship	Theme	EYFS/KS1 Worship	KS2 Worship	Variations / notes
Value of the Half Term: Individual Liberty					
05/09/22	MS	New Beginnings & Value of the Half Term: Individual Liberty	INSET	INSET	Whole school worship Wed 9.25am (MS)
12/09/22	LC	School Values: The Best I Can Be	Darryl	Tracy	
19/09/22	MS	Jigsaw: Being Me in My World	Emma	Lee	
26/09/22	LC	Value of the Half Term: Individual Liberty	Ikrah	Danielle	
03/10/22	MS	School Value: Perseverance	Rachel	Tracy	Send class contributions for Harvest Festival to MS by Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October
10/10/22	LC	Harvest Festival (online)	All classes	All classes	
17/10/22	Worship Leaders leading worship: Individual Liberty	Celebrations - Diwali	Angela	Lee	Achievement Assembly Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>
24/10/22		Half Term			
Week beginning	Mon worship	Theme	EYFS/KS1 Worship	KS2 Worship	Variations / notes
Value of the Half Term: Aspiration					
31/10/22	LC	Value of the Half Term: Aspiration	Emma	Sophie	
07/11/22	MS	Jigsaw: Celebrating Difference	Ikrah	Danielle	
14/11/22	LC	Anti Bullying Week	Rachel	Tracy	

21/11/22	MS	In The News	Angela	Sophie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Worship Leaders leading worship - Aspiration</li> </ul>
28/11/22	EYFS Nativity	Feast of St Andrew	Emma	Danielle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYFS Nativity Tue 29<sup>th</sup> * Wed 30<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>
05/12/22	Y3 / 4 Nativity / Concert	The Story of Christmas	Ikrah	Tracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y3/4 Nativity / Concert Tue 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; Wed 7<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Achievement Assembly Fri 9<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm</li> </ul>
12/12/22	KS1 Nativity	Peace on Earth	Rachel	Lee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Y1/2 Nativity – Tue 13<sup>th</sup> and Wed 14<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Carol Service in Church – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9.30am</li> </ul>

### APPENDIX 3 – WORSHIP EVALUATION

St Mary & St Margaret’s Worship Evaluation / Reflection

Please fill this out with your class for your allotted week. We will use children’s responses to evaluate and develop our worship.



Class	
Week Beginning	
Theme	
<p>Evaluation</p> <p>Please note in here children’s responses to worship last week. Remind children of the worship that took place and then ask for their responses. Possible questions to prompt thoughts / response could be:</p> <p>(1) Did you learn anything about yourself / God / others?</p> <p>(2) Were there any times when you felt close to God?</p> <p>(3) What times were most helpful to you?</p> <p>(4) Which assemblies made you think? Why?</p> <p>(5) Which assemblies did you enjoy most? Why?</p> <p>(6) Which songs did you like singing? Why?</p> <p>(7) What was the best thing about our worship last week?</p> <p>(8) What could have made worship better?</p> <p>(9) Which prayers did you like best? Why?</p>	

APPENDIX 4 – SCHOOL BOOK OF PRAYERS

St Mary & St Margaret's CE Primary School  
Helping each of us to be the best we can be by living 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)



Our School Values  
Book of Prayers  
By the children of St Mary & St Margaret's

The prayers in this book were written by the children of St Mary and St Margaret's CE Primary School.

Each prayer is based on at least one of our School Values.

They can be used in worship or in quiet times to help us focus on living life in all its fullness as we try to be the best we can be.



GROWING AS A CHILD OF GOD

Faith

Dear Lord

My faith is belonging to a family,  
Always there when I need comfort,  
Believing helps me feel closer to you,  
My faith keeps me strong and happy.

Thank you.

Amen

Erin Maguire

Dear Jesus

Let us believe in ourselves and have faith to make a better  
world.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear Lord

Help us to trust one another in all we do. Allow us to keep our faith strong in everyone around us. Allow our faith to grow so we can trust one another more. Thank you for having faith in me, as I have in you.

Amen

By Casey Lockton

## Belonging

Dear God

I will always have a sense of belonging when I pray to you.

Amen

By Emmy Baker

Dear Lord

Help us to belong to a group and, in belonging, to make it a better one.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear God

We all belong to you and we also belong to St Mary and St Margaret's School as a family together.

Amen

By Lydia Puar

## Individual Liberty

Dear God

This is me. Thank you for making me, me,  
For giving me my own unique mind,  
For giving me the power to use it.

I am proud to be me.

I am proud to share my light with the world.

Amen

By Nancy Lane

Dear God

Help us always be yourself  
And always love yourself.

Amen

By Kai Nellis

## LOVING LEARNING

### Creativity

Dear God

Thank you for creating everything we see.

Thank you for the sun that rises and sets each day.

Thank you for our school, where we learn to be creative.

Please, God, protect the world you have created for us.

Amen

By Harvey Clements

Dear God

When we create things,

Help us to use our power

To make it better than ever!

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Teamwork  
God's Team Prayer

Dear Lord

Please help everyone to get along with one another and to always show understanding and care towards others.

Lord, please help everybody to realise that if we work together as one we can achieve great things as part of God's great team. Please help us remember that we are all God's children and we should treat everyone as equals.

We thank you, Lord, for our school, for all of our friends, teachers and family and ask that you will always watch over us.

We are thankful to you, Lord, that we are blessed to have a sense of belonging and be part of the St Mary and St Margaret's school team.

Amen

By William Walker

Dear God

Please help us to get better at the things we do as a team. Help us always to try and help us believe in ourselves. Guide us through the right path instead of the wrong.

Amen

By Annie Broome

Dear God

Thank you for making us part of a team. Teamwork is built upon friendship, relationships and pushing yourself out of your comfort zone. Teamwork helps us to understand the importance of not just being an individual, but of helping one another and building each other's confidence to become a great team.

Amen

By Alfie Simkiss

Almighty God  
Please help us to work as a team.  
O God help us to make good skills as a team.  
Thank you, God, for giving us wisdom to listen to each other's  
plans.  
Amen  
By Hashim Zaffar

Dear Lord  
Let us all work together as a team with friends, families or  
anyone. Help us all to show teamwork so that when someone is  
struggling to do, or build, something we can help them.  
Amen  
By Jessica Hau

# Enthusiasm

Dear Lord

Let our enthusiasm help others.

Let our enthusiasm love others.

Let our enthusiasm show respect for others.

Let our enthusiasm be an inspiration to others.

Help us to share our enthusiasm in everything we do.

Amen

By Lexie, Gracie and Billy Fox

Dear God

Please help us learn more in class and help us be enthusiastic  
about more things in life.

Help us to encourage others to also be enthusiastic.

Amen

By Oscar and Annie Broome

## CARING

### Sharing

Dear God

Please help us to understand sharing as we go through life and please help us to care. Thank you for our world and all of our things. Please help us think: 'Because we have all our things, why not share our things?'

Amen

By Joseph Puar

Dear Jesus

Help us to share our ideas together fairly with others and make the world better for sharing.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

## Love

Dear Lord

Thank you for the times when you come for us when we need you. Thank you for showing us your love. Help us to show love to others. Thank you for comforting us in your love. Help us to share that love with others.

Love is kind and gentle.

Love does not judge.

Love's heart is kind.

It does not make fun of people and makes people feel included not excluded.

Help us as we grow in the light of God.

Amen

By Orla Florey

Dear God

We thank you for this beautiful world we live in and we hope  
and pray you can guide us on our way to:

L ove one another and always be kind

O nly we can make the right choices

V alue each other and treat with respect

E verybody is a child of God.

Please help us to love.

Amen

By Harper Freeman

Dear God

Please make us happy and strong.

I am so happy to have my family and friends.

I love you God, you don't make us sad.

Thank you for making us big children.

Amen

By Caleb Job

Dear God

Thank you for your eternal love. Every day it gets more and more powerful. We will love you always. You are the eternal God.

Amen

By Noah Coleman

Dear God

Thank you for always loving me, even those times when I don't eat my tea!

Thank you, Lord, for loving my family and friends and always keeping them safe and well.

We ask everyone around the world to love each other and always be kind and take care of one another.

We thank you, Lord, for loving each and every one of us.

Amen

By Matilda Walker

Dear God

Help me to love you with all my heart. Give me the strength to bear all things, believe all things, hope all things and endure all things. Above all, help me to walk in obedience to your commands. I pray in Jesus' name.

Amen

By AJ Rhodes

Dear Lord

Help us to love our friends and family with all our love.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear Lord

We love our family and you as you love and protect us.

Help us to love and be kind to others.

Help me be good with kind hands and kind words.

Thank you for loving us and keeping us safe.

Amen

By Mia Cockayne

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.

# Chosen by Grace Lynch

Dear God  
Thank you for giving me the power to love.  
To love my family,  
To love my friends  
And to love God.  
Glory be to you, Dear Lord,  
Who is loved above all.  
Love is not just a feeling, it's an action.  
Help me to love through all I do.  
In Jesus Christ Our Lord.  
Amen  
By Lacey Simkiss



# Empathy

Dear God

Please teach us to be kind, and to show empathy and understanding in a world where we are all different, not less.

Amen

By Harry Jagger

## Mutual Respect & Tolerance

Dear God

Thank you for making us who we are.

Help us to love each other and respect each other's differences.

We may not all be the same, but we can be kind to each other.

Amen

By Summer Giffin

Dear Heavenly Father

Thank you for the colourful rainbows and thank you for the  
shining sun.

Please help us to be kind and loving to everyone.

Amen

By Georgie Sankarsingh

Dear Lord

You are like a wing that shelters us all, strong with protection,  
soft with grace. We thank you that you are like a shield that  
encircles us each day.

Help us to remember miracles happen every day, and we should  
never stop believing that your timing is just right.  
And last of all, we pray that you can help us to show respect  
even when we feel people don't deserve it.

Amen

By Eshal Ali

## ACHIEVING

### Perseverance

Dear Lord

Thank you that:

When I am tired, you give me the strength to go on;

When I am discouraged, you give me hope;

When I am afraid, you give me peace;

When I am feeling alone, you bring me comfort;

And you fill our spirits with peace.

Amen

Adapted by Eshal Ali

Dear Lord

Thank you for standing beside us wherever we go and in whatever we are trying to achieve. We ask you to give us the strength to persevere when we are struggling or finding things difficult.

Amen

By Casey Lockton

Dear God

Help us to have the perseverance to do something again and again if we do it wrong.

Help us to work hard to achieve what we want to.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear Lord

Life is never easy, so whatever comes to challenge us, help us to remember: be firm, be steadfast and be the bravest we can be.

We can cry, feel upset, but never lose hope.

Help us to never give up and to remember:

With God, nothing is impossible!

God, grant us

Serenity to accept the things we cannot change;

Courage to change the things we can;

And wisdom to know the difference.

Amen

By Eshal Ali

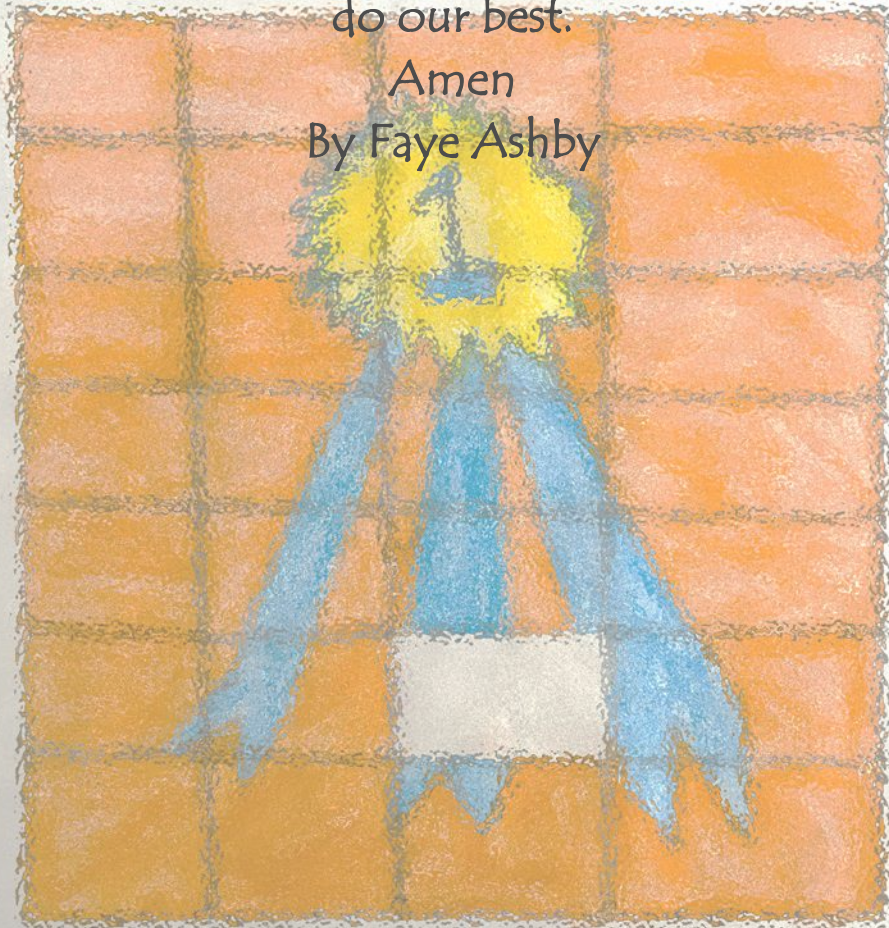
# Excellence

Dear God

When we do work, help us to do excellent things and to always  
do our best.

Amen

By Faye Ashby



## Aspiration

Dear God

Let happiness fill us up with joy and let there be peace here always. Let us grow to be the best we can and let us rise to our fullest potential. Push us further so our confidence can grow and so we can do things we've never imagined. Let us pursue our dreams and let us always have a dream to dream. Let our hearts, our brains and our minds be happy and healthy.

Thank you, Lord.

Amen

By Lauren Marriott

Dear God

Please help us to become the people we would like to be and to grow up learning something new each day. We are sorry for the things we have done wrong. Help others to be themselves and to do things they have dreamed of.

Amen

By Annie Broome

Dear God

I believe that you created us for a special purpose, and that you have a perfect plan for each and every one of us. We ask that you fulfil your purpose for us and help us to see the good inside each and every one of us.

Help us to follow these simple rules:

Happy moments – praise God.

Difficult moments – seek God.

Quiet moments – worship God.

Painful moments – trust God.

Amen

By Eshal Ali

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Forgiveness

Dear God

Thank you for parents and teachers who help us every day.  
Thank you for guiding us through life and the obstacles we have  
to face each day.

Help us to forgive those who have upset us. Help us through  
the good times and the bad times.

Thank you for the beautiful things you have created. We love  
the ocean and the sandy beaches, the plants and animals too.  
We love you so much. We are grateful for all you have made.

Thank you, Lord our God.

Amen

By Madison Wall

Dear God

Help us to forgive people when they do something by accident  
to us and help us to say sorry when we do things.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear Lord

Please give me the strength and ability to forgive others who  
may have upset me. Also, help us to remember that upsetting  
others is not kind.

Amen

By Casey Lockton

Dear Merciful God

We thank you for the power of forgiveness.  
We choose to forgive everyone who has caused hurt.  
Please help us to remember the power of forgiveness.  
O Lord, forgive us all our sins – great and small, the first and the  
last, those that are apparent and those that are hidden.

Amen

By Zaynab Zaffar

## Democracy and the Rule of Law

Dear Lord

Thank you for all those people who work hard as leaders of our school and of our country. Help our leaders to find the wisdom to make rules and laws that help our world to be the best it can be.

Help each of us to play our part in following the rules so that we can live happily together.

Amen

## Confidence

Dear Lord

Help me to be confident and to believe in myself even when things are hard. Give us the strength to encourage others to grow in their confidence and help us to be the best we can be at all times.

Amen

By Casey Lockton

Dear Lord

Help us to believe in ourselves. Help us to find the confidence to do things we really like doing.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

O My Lord

Grant us self-confidence, contentment and boldness and ease  
our task for us.

Even as we ask, help us to remain humble in all that we do.

We pray and ask for positive self-esteem and confidence.

We give you our insecurities, our self-doubts and fears.

Please help us to trust and believe in ourselves.

Amen

By Zaynab Zaffar

Lord

Let us all have confidence so that if we want to do something,  
but it is scary, we can just go for it and see how we get on. If we  
don't get on that well the first time, help us to keep on trying  
until we get things right.

Amen

By Jessica Hau

## Independence

Dear God

Thank you for helping me grow and become independent.  
Please help all of the people in the world feel safe and happy  
when they are on their own.

Help others learn to be independent but still be helped if they  
need it.

God, your strength and love gives me the understanding to  
learn and be the best I can be.

Thank you for your guidance.

Amen

By Brandon Job

Dear God

Thank you for helping us to be independent when things are hard.

Everybody finds things hard, but when you come to us, you give us strength to have independence to get through these hard times.

Thank you for helping us with being the best we can be and thank you for helping us to be independent at home, school and everywhere else.

Amen

By Robin Bourke

Dear Lord

Help us to do things we know we can do without asking.

Amen

By Faye Ashby

Dear Lord

Please help all of us to have independence even when work is hard.

Amen

By Jessica Hau

## MULTIPLE VALUES

Love, Teamwork, Sharing, Perseverance, Aspiration

Our Father

Thank you for giving us the chance to love each other.

Every day we learn to share with each other and build friendships that will last a lifetime.

Thank you for helping us to make the world a better place and help each other along the way. If we come across a problem in life, we know in our hearts we can achieve great things together and overcome those problems that try and stand in our way. If we work hard together every day, with you on our team we will win the race in making this great world of ours a much better place.

Every dream: Achievable  
Every milestone: Remarkable  
Every destination: Reachable

Amen

By Thomas Rice

Faith, Belonging, Love, Mutual Respect & Tolerance,  
Perseverance, Confidence, Teamwork, Sharing, Creativity,  
Independence, Empathy, Aspiration

Dear Lord

I pray today to thank you for giving me faith in believing in you and for a sense of belonging to a family who loves, respects, tolerate and believes in me, even when sometimes I think I am hard to tolerate.

I thank my family, friends and teachers for their perseverance to give me the confidence to be a better team player to share and play and be creative and have a better understanding of others' needs. I hope with all their support it helps me to be more independent as I climb these challenging steps in life. With all the empathy, love and aspiration they have shown, I hope it helps me develop and grow into a good person.

Thank you, Lord.

Hear my prayer.

Amen

By Enzo Milan

## Belonging, Teamwork, Empathy, Love

Dear God

Thank you for letting me be a member of St Mary and St Margaret's. Help me to be good at teamwork. When someone is upset, help us to show empathy and love.

Amen

By Grace Phillips

## Confidence, Faith

Dear Lord

Let us all have faith in each other. Help us to tell each other to be strong and to never give up. Help us give each other confidence. Let's show faith to each other and it might bring a smile on each other's faces.

Amen

By Eve Barton

Love, Creativity, Sharing  
Dear Lord  
Up above  
Thank you for  
Your unconditional love

Thank you for  
The gift of life  
And precious mums  
Keeping us out of strife

Thank you for  
Friends that are caring  
And for the food  
On our table we are sharing

Thank you for  
Creativity  
And making me  
The very best I can be

Amen

By Ka'Leyah Brown

**Belonging, Sharing, Forgiveness, Faith, Mutual Respect &  
Tolerance, Teamwork, Love**

Dear Lord  
Thank you for all our wonderful friends and family who love  
me, and I love them.  
You teach me to share and work with others to help me belong  
and care.  
You help me to forgive and give me faith so I can have mutual  
respect and tolerance.

Thank you, Lord, for all you do and always being by my side.

Amen

By Rocko Hunt

## OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

This is our school,  
Let peace dwell here.  
Let the room be full of contentment,  
Let love abide here:  
Love of one another,  
Love of mankind,  
Love of life itself,  
And love of God.  
Let us remember that  
As many hands make a house,  
So many hearts make a school.  
Amen

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in Heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done  
On Earth as in Heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,  
As we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours  
Now and forever.

Amen