

St Bede's Catholic Voluntary Academy



Acts of worship Policy

We commit ourselves to love, respect and serve one another as disciples of Jesus Christ

AIMS

- To give thanks and praise to God.
- To deepen students' awareness of the Liturgical Year and to develop their understanding of other faith celebrations
- To develop the prayer life of the school community
- To promote spiritual and moral values in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church.
- To promote a sense of belonging to a thriving and active Christian community.

OBJECTIVES

- To encourage the active participation of staff and students in worship, encouraging different groups to take responsibility for preparation and delivery.
- To relate spiritual and moral values to the daily life of the school
- To celebrate the Liturgical life of the Church
- To celebrate cultural diversity in forms of dance, music, drama.

ALL ACTS OF WORSHIP SHOULD

- Be well planned
- Encourage students to explore questions about meaning and purpose, values and beliefs
- Offer opportunities for prayer or meditation
- Encourage student participation
- Share values of a Christian nature
- Provide opportunities to reflect upon readings from sacred texts or other writings

Tutor Time Collective Worship

It is the responsibility of the learning tutor to ensure an act of collective worship takes place during tutor time. Students should be encouraged to prepare the Act of Worship with advice and guidance when needed from the learning tutor. This will take various forms:

- Traditional prayers of the Church will be said during tutor time and will be changed according to the liturgical year
- A short reflection will take place daily in tutor classrooms planned and prepared by the chaplaincy team and liturgy coordinator
- The website with resources for tutors is updated weekly with different themes each week.
- Each tutor group will participate in a Chapel Act of worship each half term led by the Chaplaincy Team
- All resources are on the O drive under Acts of Worship

The liturgy co-ordinator and the chaplaincy team are happy to provide support and advice on the preparation of acts of worship. The choice of readings, themes, prayers and music should contribute to creating an experience of prayer and reflection.

House Leaders and House Assemblies

House Leaders are responsible for leading the house in an act of worship on a regular basis. Assemblies should be well planned, meaningful and include traditional prayers of the Church. Technical equipment is available on request.

Each House group will gather for an Act of Worship organised by the House Leader in the Assembly Hall as follows:

Monday:	Wiseman
Tuesday:	Allen
Wednesday:	Manning
Thursday:	Newman
Friday:	Vaughan

Students will gather in the Presentation Centre on their respective days at 1:45pm. At least once a year each tutor group will lead a House assembly.

Acts of Worship throughout the day

At 8.45am there will be a prayer said in all classes before the lesson begins. This should be the mission statement or the morning offering.

At 1:45pm during tutor time and assembly traditional prayers of the Church will be said. These will rotate throughout the year.

At 3.05pm a prayer should be said before the students are dismissed. This should be the Glory Be

Other Liturgical Celebrations

- Liturgical celebrations take place at the beginning of the Academic year and at the end of each term
- On Holydays of Obligation there will be the opportunity for the school community to celebrate Mass.
- Voluntary Mass takes place in the chapel dependent on the availability of local parish priests.
- A commissioning Mass takes place in the first term for new members of the chaplaincy team
- The school feast day is celebrated on May 25th
- Year 11 Leaver's Liturgy and Mass of Welcome for Year 7
- Mass for all Parents and friends of St Bede's in September.
- One Mass per year group takes place throughout the year
- Services of reconciliation take place during Advent and Lent
- Prayer journeys also take place throughout the year
- Voluntary acts of reflection take place once a half term by the chaplaincy team on a lunchtime
- Reflection days take place for all year groups once a year.

Opportunities for Staff

The spiritual nurturing of staff is essential in order to give them the confidence and enthusiasm to engage and encourage students in reflection and worship. This includes

- Staff retreats
- Opportunities to lead prayer at briefing and meetings
- Involvement in pilgrimages
- Mass at the start of the academic year
- Staff Inset

Approved: March 2019

Reviewed: March 2021



Prayer at St. Bede's Catholic Academy



8.40am: Period 1

Either: O Jesus through the most pure heart of Mary, I offer you all my prayers, works and actions of this day.

St Bede: Pray For us

OR: We commit ourselves to Love, Respect and serve one another as disciples of Jesus Christ

St Bede: Pray for us

1:45pm

In Tutor time the Prayer will change according to the time of Year. There is a **daily** reflection and Prayer on the Acts of Worship website

3.05pm Period 5

Before students are dismissed they will stand and pray:

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit . AMEN

St Bede: Pray For us.