



St Peter's Catholic Primary School

Progression in Pupil Leadership of Prayer and Liturgy

It is our expectation that all pupils regularly participate in planning and leading Prayer and Liturgy, with opportunities to do so at least every other week. This ensures an appropriate balance between child-led prayer and liturgy, where pupils develop their independence and leadership skills, and experiences led by adults, where children are guided, inspired and formed through high-quality prayer and worship. Children may work individually, in pairs, in small groups or as a whole class when planning and leading Prayer and Liturgy.

These expectations demonstrate the progression of knowledge, skills and understanding across each year group. As pupils move through the school, they build upon previously acquired skills and develop increasing confidence and independence in planning, leading and evaluating Prayer and Liturgy. Children are encouraged to revisit and apply learning from previous years. For example, a Year 2 pupil may continue to select music or choose items for the prayer focus, while also taking greater responsibility for selecting or composing prayers.

All pupils are encouraged to use the resources within their Child-Led Worship Boxes, while Key Stage 2 pupils also use the Child-Led Worship Planner to support them in planning meaningful and engaging Prayer and Liturgy.

EYFS

Pupils help to create a prayerful environment by choosing items for the prayer focus, such as a liturgical cloth, cross, Bible, candle or religious artefact.

Year 1

Pupils select a hymn, song or piece of reflective music to support a particular theme, liturgical season or focus for Prayer and Liturgy.

Year 2

With teacher guidance, pupils select or compose prayers to be used during Prayer and Liturgy. As their confidence develops, they begin to choose prayers that reflect the liturgical season, scripture theme or prayer focus.

Year 3

With teacher guidance, pupils select and share scripture passages linked to the prayer focus, Catholic Social Teaching or the liturgical year. They begin to explain how their chosen scripture connects to the theme of the celebration.

Year 4

With teacher guidance, pupils plan and lead a response activity to help others engage in prayer and reflection. This may include meditation, prayer through art, praying in colour, music, silence or reflection through nature.

Year 5

With teacher guidance, pupils plan all four elements of Prayer and Liturgy: Gather, Listen, Respond and Mission (Go Forth). They begin to consider how each element helps participants pray and reflect more deeply.

Year 6

Pupils plan, lead and evaluate all four elements of Prayer and Liturgy with increasing independence. By the end of Year 6, they confidently lead prayer and liturgy for other classes and whole-school celebrations, modelling reverence, leadership and active participation for younger pupils.