

Saint David's CIW Primary School

Gynradd yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Dewi Sant



Collective Worship Policy

Document Control

Organisation	St David's Church in Wales Primary
Title	Collective Worship Policy
Author	School
Owner	Head Teacher and Governing Body
Protective Marking	NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED
Review date	Annually

Revision History

Revision Date	Revision	Previous Version	Description of Revision
29/01/2019	1.0	N/A	Policy created and signed off
July 2020	1.0		Annual Review and no changes needed

Signed by Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body

.....
.....

Signed by the Head Teacher:

.....
.....

Date approved: (by full Governing Body)

Date of review:

Our Vision

Guided by our Christian values, we strive to promote a nurturing learning environment, that values difference and enables all pupils to become happy and independent lifelong learners.

Our Ethos

Learning together through fun, friendship and faith.

Our Mission / School Aims

- To create a respectful community promoting compassion towards others.
- To nurture lasting friendships based on truth and trust.
- To encourage responsibility and foster positive attitudes.
- To strive for excellence in teaching and learning within all aspects of school life.
- To develop creative and independent thinkers who are happy and successful in an ever-changing world.

St David's Church in Wales Primary School

Collective Worship Policy

The place and value of collective worship is firmly established in education legislation. St David's Church in Wales Primary is strongly committed to ensuring that the program of collective worship satisfies the statutory requirements of being wholly, or mainly of a Christian character, in accordance with the legislation. Beyond that, the school is committed to ensuring that Collective Worship enhances the experiences that children receive in the school, allowing them time for individual and shared reflection, as well as experiencing and engaging in prayer and worship in the everyday context of their lives.

Aims of Collective Worship

- To provide an opportunity for children to worship and praise.
- To provide a time for reflection, celebration and hope.
- To provide the opportunity for children to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs.
- To encourage participation and response.
- To develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values and reinforce positive attitudes.
- To encourage, respect and understand the principles of worship, followed by planning, delivering and evaluating the impact of worship on themselves and others.

Our understanding of Collective Worship

We understand that Collective Worship should be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective Worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in this special activity. We expect everyone to take active part in Collective Worship. Our Worship is based on the Christian doctrine and beliefs of the Church in Wales.

While the majority of acts of Worship in our school are Christian, in order to foster awareness, understanding and acceptance of other denominations and faiths, we also hold worship that reflects other traditions that are represented within the school and the wider community.

Organisation of Collective Worship.

We hold a daily act of Worship in our school. It is led by staff, clergy, visitors and by our Worship leaders from various year groups. The nature of the worship varies from whole school, to separate Foundation Phase and Key stage 2 and individual class Worship.

We conduct Worship in a dignified respectful way. Children see Worship time as a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate manner. Children are required to be quiet and thoughtful at the appropriate times and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer, hymns and choruses. On other occasions, the children will be actively involved in the planning and delivery of acts of Worship, either for their peer groups or for the wider groups across key stages or the school. Children are also encouraged to reflect on their contribution to Worship and evaluate its impact on themselves and others.

We create an appropriate atmosphere using a variety of live and recorded music, candles and various artefacts with religious and spiritual significance. Other artefacts are used frequently to illustrate or provide a focal point for Worship.

We take the themes of our Worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and our values. We reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes of Worship reflect and build on topics that we teach as part of the school curriculum and enhance the attitudes, values and themes in advance of the day they take place. Our worship reflects and celebrates the talents, achievements and learning of the children.

Our weekly celebration Worship offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and to give thanks to God. This plays an important part in promoting the ethos of our school, which is that all children are valued, and all achievements are recognised; also, that St David's

Church in Wales Primary school is a successful school. Collective Worship offers an ideal opportunity for these successes to be celebrated.

Content of Collective Worship.

Over the course of a term, collective worship should be:

- The teachings of Jesus and other Bible stories
- Moral stories from other sources of world religions
- Reflecting upon Christian symbols and their use in worship
- Observing the cycle of the Anglican year including liturgical colours
- Songs appropriate to the theme or season
- Children's drama and presentations
- Eucharist
- Reflection

A variety of people will lead acts of worship, including the Head Teacher, the staff, the incumbent and visitors.

A Typical week will be:

Monday: Head Teacher, pupils' achievements and celebrations

Tuesday: Whole School Worship based on Values through Bible stories

Wednesday: Clergy Worship

Thursday: Values led by SLT

Friday: Class Worship

Whole School Worship Format

Whole school worship incorporates prayer and structures that children will recognise in a more formal church setting. There are also opportunities for elements of the worship to include Welsh.:

- Gathering and Welcome
- Use Welsh or English to greet people, whilst allowing the children to respond in Welsh and welcome visitors similarly

- School prayer in English or Welsh
- Candle lighting to signify the beginning of worship with the words 'we light this candle to remember that Jesus is the light of the world'
- Hymns/chorus with the main theme of worship
- Bible reading/story
- Reflection
- Prayers
- The Lord's prayer
- Messy Grace

Right of Withdrawal

Collective worship is a positive and enhancing experience in our school and we believe every child should have the chance to flourish in an environment where faith is valued and celebrated. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the statutory right of withdrawal as set out in legislation. The Head Teacher keeps a record of all children who are withdrawn from collective worship.

Monitoring and Review

It is the role of a named school governor with responsibility for religious education and collective worship to monitor the policy and practice of collective worship along with the Head Teacher and staff member responsible for collective worship. The governor concerned will liaise with the Head Teacher before reporting to the governors on religious education and worship.

All staff will be responsible for implementing this policy with support from the Head Teacher and member of staff responsible for collective worship.