



Ysgol Bryn Gwalia



Collective Worship Policy

Last Review Date	July 2022
Date to be reviewed by Senior Management Team	July 2025
Date Adopted by Governing Body	July 2022
Head Teacher – Mrs Lorraine Dalton	
Chair of Governors – Mrs Janiene Davies	



Introduction

The daily act of collective worship at Ysgol Bryn Gwalia plays a central role in our life and work. It provides us with valuable opportunities to reaffirm our values and ethos. It offers important opportunities to strengthen our sense of community, belonging and inclusiveness and to reinforce the respect and care we have for each other and reflects the ethos of our school. Through collective worship we make a significant contribution to the religious, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of those present. We want all our children/young people to 'enjoy and achieve' and collective worship provides a valuable vehicle for this.

Aims

- ◆ to provide pupils and staff with a range of opportunities for Christian worship;
- ◆ to give pupils opportunities to reflect on the significance of Christian (and other faith traditions') stories, events and festivals and how these might effect their lives;
- ◆ to offer experiences and opportunities for pupils to join in with and respond to a variety of forms of collective worship in order for them to reflect on the significance of their own and others' beliefs;
- ◆ be inclusive and to promote our shared values which contribute to our common life together by celebrating individual, school and wider community achievement within the context of collective worship.

These aims mean that our collective worship programme is such that we can include all of our school community.

Collective worship and the law

We comply with legal requirements by providing a daily act of collective worship for all pupils and staff on the school roll, unless they have been withdrawn on grounds of conscience. The majority of our acts of collective worship are 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character' whilst recognising the religious, spiritual, moral, social and cultural insights provided by other principal religions and life-stances represented in Wales.

Collective worship and parents/carers

We emphasise the importance of our collective worship programme in developing our school's ethos and values and in providing a range of opportunities for children/young people to consider important issues for life and living. Parents do however have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from the daily act of collective worship. This is made clear through the information contained in our prospectus. Parents who wish to consider withdrawing their child(ren) are asked to make an appointment with the Headteacher (or the collective worship co-ordinator). If a child is withdrawn from collective worship they are supervised by an adult outside of the hall/room and are reintegrated for any notices or presentations. Currently there are no withdrawals from our collective worship programme.

Collective worship and staff

Teachers (and sometimes teaching assistants/supervisors) attend collective worship with their class. Each class prepares and leads an act of collective worship for the whole school, once every term. Pupils and staff organise and lead the whole school act of collective worship. Resources are provided to help with this. Non-teaching staff are invited to attend collective worship both within school as well as services that are held in the church.

Collective worship planning

The Headteacher will regularly review collective worship planning, to plan, oversee and monitor the programme and to consider how to continue to improve the experiences and opportunities we provide for our pupils through collective worship.

Collective worship organisation

We hold acts of collective worship every day. We organise the programme around a thematic approach. It is the responsibility of staff leading the act of collective worship to ensure that the content and form of delivery is accessible for all those present. Collective worship leaders need to ensure that over time the following opportunities are provided:

- Use of the Bible and other sacred texts as a source for stories and teachings, emphasising common themes and ensuring the inclusiveness of the school community is reinforced. Moral tales/teachings and contemporary situations may also be drawn on where appropriate;
- Marking of appropriate festivals and other significant days;
- Opportunity for children to pray
- On Wednesday we have Welsh Collective Worship

Whole school acts of collective worship

- ◆ We aim to create an atmosphere of stillness and calm. To aid this, appropriate music is played for entry and exit from the hall. If someone leading collective worship wants a particular piece of music then that can usually be arranged;
- ◆ The usual format consists of an input from the leader, an appropriate hymn or song, followed by a time of prayer and/or quiet reflection. Leaders are encouraged to actively engage pupils/students through for example questioning and drama;
- ◆ The act of collective worship is kept separate from any notices or other items which may be included in this assembly time, with a different person leading each section;
- ◆ Visitors may be invited from time to time to lead one of our whole school acts of collective worship;
- ◆ The assembly, including the act of collective worship, usually takes 20 minutes altogether.

Use of Visitors

The Headteacher is responsible for liaising with any visitors who come into school to lead collective worship. Practical arrangements such as timing, age range of audience and appropriate content are agreed through discussion. By drawing on people from the local community to lead acts of collective worship we enhance community cohesion.

Health, Safety and Well-being

In collective worship we follow the school's health, safety and well-being policy. For example, appropriate care must be taken when using lighted candles and electrical equipment. In line with our 'net-safety' policy any internet resources used must be checked by the leader prior to their use in act of collective worship. In the event of fire all pupils must be familiar with exit routes from the halls and other areas of the school where collective worship takes place. Visitors are not left unaccompanied with children/young people.

Equal Opportunities and Inclusion

Collective worship will challenge stereotypes, misinformation and misconceptions about race, ethnicity, religion and gender. During collective worship, religions will be presented fairly and accurately and diversity and equality will be affirmed.

Resources

A range of resources are available to support teachers and pupils with collective worship and is situated in the main corridor. Resources may be purchased for use within the school.

Monitoring and Evaluation

It is the role of the Headteacher to monitor individual acts of collective worship.

Evaluation & Review

This policy will be reviewed by the Senior Management Team and Governing Body and adopted by the Governing Body as per the schedule on the front page.

Ysgol yr Holl Saint - All Saints' School, Gresford

Collective Worship Monitoring & Evaluation

Observer:	Date:
Venue:	Time:
Collective Worship Leader:	Type:
Topic / Theme:	
Brief description of what happened:	
How clearly was the aim expressed?	
To what extent was the collective worship 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'?	
How did the act of collective worship promote the spiritual and moral development of pupils?	
Was the act of collective worship appropriate for the pupils/students (age, ability, backgrounds, etc)?	
How did the pupils/students actively participate?	
How did the adults present actively participate?	
Were there opportunities for:	
Reflection? <input type="checkbox"/>	Stillness? <input type="checkbox"/>
Silence? <input type="checkbox"/>	Prayer? <input type="checkbox"/>

General comment:

Comment from the Headteacher:

Copies to:

Headteacher

Link governor