

Kind Hands and Clever Minds Make Our School



Collective Worship Policy February 2016

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

The Collective Worship Policy at Ty'n Y Wern follows the guidance of:

- Circular 10/94 Religious Education and Collective Worship
- The Education Reform Act 1988
- Supplementary Guidance: Collective Worship in non-denominational schools – Estyn, September 2013.

At Ty'n y Wern, we define Collective Worship to mean:

“It must in some sense reflect something special or separate from ordinary school activities and it should be concerned with reverence or veneration paid to a divine being or power.”

Collective Worship takes place in whole school, half school or class assemblies.

These assemblies are an integral part of the broad and balanced curriculum to which all children are entitled.

Collective Worship underpins all aspects of school life.

Collective Worship is open and accessible to all staff and pupils. No assumptions are made about their personal beliefs or commitment.

Ty'n y Wern recognises the right of all children to explore their own beliefs but the school promotes a common ethos and shared values.

Whilst awareness of other religious traditions and beliefs may be raised during Collective Worship, we recognise that the proper place for fuller exploration of these issues is in religious education.

Aims of Collective Worship:

We aim to provide a range of spiritual and moral values in order to develop pupils' spiritual awareness. We share with the children the knowledge of Christian values, beliefs, celebrations and patterns of worship. The children are made aware of other beliefs, traditions, cultures and patterns of worship.

As a school, we believe Collective Worship provides opportunities for:

- Pupils to worship God
- Pupils to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs
- Participation and response from pupils, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to, watching and joining in the worship offered
- Pupils to develop a sense of community spirit
- The school to promote a common ethos and shared values
- Staff and pupils to reinforce positive attitudes

Collective Worship allows a pause for reflection and stillness amidst the pressure of the school day.

It also allows children the opportunity to celebrate birthdays, special occasions, national events and achievements in a happy and joyful environment.

Practice and Procedures

Ty'n y Wern follows the guidance in the Education Reform Act of 1988.

'In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. (ERA 1988, Education Act 1993)

At Ty'n Y Wern our collective worship is broadly Christian. The school covers the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

There are occasions when other faiths are the focus during collective worship, (For example, festivals, holy days etc.)

The majority of themes explored will be appropriate to pupils whatever their age, background or personal beliefs, whether Christian or otherwise.

A collective act of worship should provide opportunities to:

- Focus on a particular issue by providing a stimulus
- Encourage reflection on a theme
- Respond in a variety of ways as appropriate, e.g. prayers, singing, movement, thinking time. (Children will be invited to join prayers if they wish)
- Develop a sense of reverence over a period of time, through the recognition, affirmation and celebration of the worthiness of those values held to be of central importance to our community.

A calm atmosphere is created prior to collective worship through the use of appropriate music. Pupils are expected to enter and leave the hall silently and to sit quietly during reflection time.

At the end of each assembly, pupils will recite The Lord's Prayer and sing a short Welsh prayer – Diolch i Ti am y Byd.

Each term, additional assemblies will cover special events or themes such as road safety, anti-bullying week, healthy eating week, school and national events. These will be planned for in advance on a yearly calendar.

Parents have the right to request that their child is excused from Collective Worship. The Class Teacher / Headteacher will discuss the matter sensitively with parents,

and where appropriate, alternative arrangements will be made for pupils who are not participating.

Weekly Assembly Plan

DAY	Foundation Phase (10.20 – 10.35 am)	Key Stage 2 (9.15 – 9.30am)
Monday	Singing Practice led by Phase Leader or Class Teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning new Christian or Welsh songs - Christian Prayers 	Singing Practice led by Music Coordinator or Class Teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning new Christian or Welsh songs - Christian Prayers
Tuesday	Headteacher led <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Story linked to SEAL theme / Golden Rules / Current Events - English Song & Christian Prayers 	Headteacher led <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Story linked to SEAL theme / Golden Rules / Current Events - English Song & Christian Prayers
Wednesday	Open the Book (9.25 – 9.45am) Led by Trethomas Christian Fellowship Church Christian Biblical Story (acted out by TCF and pupils) Prayer and Song	Open the Book (9.05 – 9.25am) Led by Trethomas Christian Fellowship Church Christian Biblical Story (acted out by TCF and pupils) Prayer and Song
Thursday	Phase Leader or Class Teacher led <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biblical / Moral story - Welsh Song & Christian Prayers 	Phase Leader or Class Teacher led <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biblical / Moral story - Welsh Song & Christian Prayers
Friday	Whole School Golden Assembly Led by Headteacher / Deputy Head / Phase Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificates of achievement from each class - Birthday celebrations - Achievements awarded outside of school 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prefect awards- Attendance cup weekly winners- Criw Cymraeg awards for bilingualism
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