

Collective Worship Policy

Collective Worship is not seen as just a legal requirement in St Patrick's School, but as an integral part of the life of the school. It is rooted in the knowledge that each person comes from God, belongs to God and their relationship with God is the essence of life.

Nurturing, supporting and developing a meaningful communication with our Loving Father are at the heart of our Collective Worship. Through it we give glory, honour, praise and thanks to God as we celebrate his presence in our lives.

The Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship aims to provide opportunities for all pupils and staff to,

- Develop community spirit
- Reflect on personal belief
- Reflect on spiritual and moral issues
- Contemplate upon the mystery of God
- Celebrate and respond to life
- Enrich religious experience
- Take time out for awe, wonder and reflection
- Experience liturgy appropriate to age and stage

Collective Worship Principles

- The theme, focus, delivery, length and resources used should be appropriate to the interests, ages, backgrounds and ability of pupils.
- The length of Collective Worship will be appropriate to the age and stage of children, i.e. 1 minute for each year of the child's life (5 -6 minutes for KS1 and 7-10 minutes for KS2)
- The timing of the daily act of Collective Worship may be in response to the curriculum or to events in children's lives and the wider world, as well as at set times of the day. It should always be a quality time.

- A special atmosphere should be created through the use of, music, drapes, candles, artefacts etc.
- Groupings may be class, key stage or whole school.
- Collective Worship is planned for within each class, during the Respect and Rejoice part of each Here I Am topic. Key Stage Collective Worship will also be planned for. The Christian Education Department planning sheets will be used.
- Collective Worship should include opportunities for different styles of prayer i.e. traditional and informal prayers; prayers of thanksgiving, petition, penitence, intercession and praise. It should also allow for opportunities to reflect and listen to the voice of God.
- Collective Worship should develop an understanding of the gestures and symbols used in Liturgy, so that all may be led to a fuller sense of communion in the Church.
- As stated in the school prospectus, Muslim children may be withdrawn from Collective Worship at the request of their parents. If they are not withdrawn they are expected to behave in a respectful manner but not to take part.

The time allocation for Collective Worship does not come out of any area of the curriculum, including the 10% of the timetable given to Religious Education.

Planned Opportunities for Collective Worship

All classes will choose each day, an appropriate time for Collective Worship. This may be either at a set time, or in response to awe and wonder in the curriculum. The Respect and Rejoice sections of Here I Am also generate occasions for Collective Worship.

Collective Worship will also take place within Key Stage and Whole School Assemblies. Care will be taken that the Collective Worship has a distinct nature i.e. The Collective Worship is led by a different person from the rest of the assembly and follows the guidance above

Times of Collective Worship

Collective Worship times - Key Stages

Whole School - Monday 9.00 am

Whole school or Key Stage - Friday 9.00 am

Daily Collective Worship times - Classes

Collective Worship will take place at these times unless in response to awe and wonder in the curriculum or in response to events in the children's lives or the wider world.

FS	3.00 - 3.05
Year 1	11.50-12.00
Year 2	8.50-9.00
Year 3	12.20-12.30
Year 4	12.20 - 12.30
Year 5	12.20 - 12.30
Year 6	12.20 - 12.30

Date of policy: June 2016

Co-ordinator: M Potts

Review date: June 2018