

Gwenfro Community Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body:

Review date:

Signed:

Chair of Governors:

Collective Worship Policy

Introduction

At Gwenfro Community Primary School, we aim to ensure that Collective Worship adheres to national guidelines. We aim to promote spiritual development, contribute to personal development and including an awareness of the school as a community, the wider local community and enhance an awareness of global citizenship.

We aim to ensure that Collective Worship at Gwenfro Community Primary School offers time for discussion, reflection and thought in class based situations and whole school assemblies where pupils are actively engaged in discussions.

We also aim to develop our welsh culture and ethos during Collective Worship time.

What is Collective Worship?

- School acts of collective worship are educationally meaningful when they provide opportunities to engage with the needs of all learners, whatever their faith or belief background. Good collective worship promotes spiritual and moral development, contributes to personal development, benefits the whole school community, links the school community and the wider local community, and enhances awareness of global citizenship.
- There is a statutory requirement for schools to provide a daily act of collective worship for all learners.
- This requirement is for every learner to have opportunity to participate in an act of collective worship every day.
- There is provision for learners to be withdrawn from acts of collective worship at the request of parents. Arrangements for this must be made with the Headteacher.
- There is also provision for teachers to withdraw from conducting acts of collective worship.
- The majority of acts of collective worship in a school term and year should be 'wholly, mainly of a broadly Christian character'.

- The majority of acts of collective worship should have elements in them which relate to traditions of Christian belief.
- Worship in a school context should be 'collective' rather than 'corporate'. 'Collective worship' implies bringing together people of differing views and understandings, while 'corporate worship' implies bringing together those who share in a single view or understanding.
- Acts of collective worship should not be passively received - a response is required.
- Schools have the right to a 'Determination' - that is, to be released from the requirements for acts of worship to be wholly, mainly of a broadly Christian character, if the school composition might require this (applications are to be made to the local SACRE).
- Acts of worship are distinct from an 'assembly' - which, in law, is actually any gathering of the school apart from collective worship.
- The law does not require the whole school to be together for collective worship. The requirement is for any gathering of learners the school chooses, other than groupings based on religious affiliation.
- The law does not state a specific length of time for acts of collective worship. The length of acts of collective worship is a school matter, but should not reduce the expected hours of the curriculum day.
- Acts of collective worship does not need to be at the start of school in the morning. The timing of collective worship in the school day is for the school to determine.

School Prayer

Ein Tad,
 Diolch i ti am yr ysgol,
 A fy ffrindiau hefyn,
 Helpa ni fod,
 Yn plant da.
 Amen

In usual times, organisation of Assemblies and Acts of Collective Worship are as follows:

Monday -	Whole school gwasanaeth
Tuesday -	Class based Collective Worship
Wednesday -	Amser canu
Thursday -	Class based Collective Worship
Friday -	Whole school 'Gwasanaeth Bendigedig'.

- Senior Leadership Team take responsibility for assemblies on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- The school welcomes local ministers, lay preachers or other visitors to join us in Collective Worship where possible, particularly during times of the year such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter.
- Pupils are expected to enter and leave the hall in a quiet, orderly manner escorted by the class teacher. Sometimes music may be played upon pupils' arrival until the person leading the gwasanaeth is ready to begin.
- A song will be sung at the end of our gwasanaeth.
- Music or an artefact such as a picture or other visual object may be the focus for quiet reflection.
- Pupils are encouraged to participate through music (instrumentalist or choir), readings, poetry or dance.
- Collective Worship always takes account of occasions such as St. David's Day and other important celebrations and festivals during the year.
- Songs, reading, stories and moments of reflection form the main structure of our gwasanaeth.

