



BRYN CELYNNOG

Comprehensive School

Nurturing Success

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

LAST APPROVED BY GOVERNORS: OCTOBER 2023

DATE FOR REVIEW: OCTOBER 2024

BRYN CELYNNOG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

PHILOSOPHY

At Bryn Celynnog, acts of collective worship should be educationally meaningful and should provide opportunities to nurture the development of all students irrespective of faith or belief background. All students must attend school assemblies unless they have had permission to be withdrawn by their parents.

Through our acts of collective worship, we aim to develop our students' understanding of the world around them so that they are able to make a positive difference to the society in which they live; locally, nationally and globally.

PRINCIPLES

Collective worship can contribute to students' development in a variety of ways:

a) SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Developing a community spirit, a common ethos and shared values.
- Reflecting on values that are of a broadly Christian character and on our own beliefs;
- Allowing a pause for reflection and stillness to see things in perspective;
- Providing an opportunity for the celebration of achievement;
- Appreciating the common ideals of spiritual life;
- Providing opportunities for expressing shared experiences and interests and for celebrating special occasions together;

b) MORAL DEVELOPMENT

- Developing recognition of the difference between right and wrong so that students can readily apply this understanding in their own lives;
- Understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions;
- Investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues;
- Encouraging students to enjoy and appreciate what they have, before they ask for more;
- Offering guidelines to encourage students to live stable, satisfying and useful lives.

c) SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Providing the opportunity for students to gather in groups, thus fostering a sense of cohort and school community;
- Providing the opportunity for students to come into contact with significant people within the school and wider community;
- Promoting understanding, respect and friendship for people of different faiths, backgrounds, ethnicities, orientations and beliefs;
- Creating a sense of community consciousness and encouraging good deeds and behaviour.

d) CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Providing a context for celebrating and recognising special events of school, local, national or global significance;
- Acknowledging diversity and affirming each person's life stance;
- Understanding and appreciating the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others;
- Recognising and valuing the things we share in common across cultural, religious, ethnic and socio-economic communities.

e) INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT

- Deepening students' sense of wonder about the world around them

- Challenging ideas and correcting misconceptions;
- Increasing knowledge, skills and understanding;
- Making connections between people, ideas and experiences.

Assemblies may also reflect the achievements and learning of the students. These assemblies provide an opportunity to reward students for their achievements both in and out of school and celebrate them together. They also play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school - that all students and their achievements are valued.

PROCEDURES

a) Delivery and Planning

At Bryn Celynnog collective worship is delivered via:

- a weekly assembly for each year group.
- a 'Thought for the Week' PowerPoint, displayed and discussed (along with accompanying questions for reflection) during registration time.

SMT are responsible for co-ordinating the assembly themes and 'Thought for the Week', (which are linked). Consideration is always given to key events on the Christian calendar, notably Harvest, Christmas and Easter. St David's Day is also celebrated.

b) Successful Assemblies

A successful assembly is one that inspires the audience and presents the message in an engaging manner. Inspirational music may be played to set the tone.

It is essential that:

- Materials are prepared in advance and the assembly does not overrun.
- ICT equipment is arranged in advance.
- Consideration is given to the involvement of students, plus staff and guests if necessary.
- The assembly audience is addressed appropriately and the language used reflects this.
- Greetings and initial instructions are given in Welsh.

A schedule for assemblies is published at the start of each term. Senior staff and Advocates in key areas are allocated to deliver assemblies. In addition, the Heads of Learning, the Head Team and School Council may deliver an assembly. Guests are invited to assemblies for special occasions.

c) Thought for the Week

A PowerPoint is issued to staff at the beginning of each term. The Thought for the Week and accompanying reflection questions should be discussed during morning registration on the non-assembly days.

PERFORMANCE

The whole school should gain from educationally meaningful and effective acts of collective worship. Student voice is used to gather feedback for consideration in future planning.