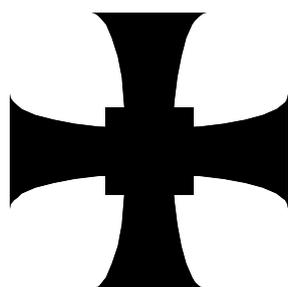


TRINITY SCHOOL



A CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Church of England Foundation Statement:

In devising and implementing the policies of the school, we will strive to live up to these words from our SIAS inspection of 2012: "The exceptional quality of care for each student and member of staff reflects its core Christian values."

Equality Objectives Statement:

In devising and implementing the policies of the school, we will also seek to do so within the provisions of the Equality Act (2010), so that we can work together to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relationships. In doing so, we will aim to remove or minimise disadvantage, to take all the steps that we can to meet people's different needs, and to encourage participation, particularly among those who might not join in.

Church Foundation Committee

Review: March 2015

Ratified by the full Governing Body: May 2015

Next review: March 2017

Collective Worship

Status

This is one of the statutory policies required of the school.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to describe the school's aims and approaches to collective worship, to ensure that we fulfil our duty, and meet the needs of the school and its community.

Introduction

Trinity School was a Voluntary Aided Church of England School from April 1999 until September 2011, when we became a Church of England Academy. We have traditional and lively links with Carlisle Cathedral, from which the school derived its name in 1968. Only about 6% of our students, however, enter the school on the basis of their family's Christian faith.

Collective worship forms an essential part of the school's approach to the wider education of the whole person, to which we aspire. In accordance with the values of the school, which are concerned with mutual respect, cultural diversity and social inclusion, collective worship will be of an inclusive, ecumenical, and Christian character. It will include all students unless they have been withdrawn by their parents or carers.

Aims

We will provide the opportunity for students and staff to gather in Houses, year groups and in their forms, so that we can:

- take part in a daily act of collective worship, and consider the spiritual aspects of being human;
- spend time in reflection on our own lives, on the important questions we all face, and on the wider life of the school community, our city and nation, and the world;
- participate actively, through readings and music, and leading parts of an assembly;
- reinforce the values of the school community and its ethos;
- celebrate successes.

Whole person education – spiritual, moral, social, cultural

It has always been at the heart of the mission of the school to provide a very good education in its widest sense, appreciating that academic learning is central to the purposes of a school, but that the deeper issues, covered under the headings of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects, have a vital and lasting importance too.

We will always encourage students to be willing to ask and to face spiritual questions in their own exploration towards and expression of faith. We will not seek to proselytise, but we will allow time for asking and for reflecting in all of our assemblies.

The moral values which the school holds will be at the core of collective worship. We will actively foster kindness and altruism, empathy and patience, forgiveness and goodness, honesty and gentleness – the fruit of the Spirit described in Galatians 5 vs 22. We will therefore be actively combating bullying and all forms of prejudice.

In terms of social responsibility, the school will foster in our students an awareness of others, of their social duties and of the wider environment. Each House and the Sixth Form will be involved in charity projects and partnerships. The wider international dimension to the work of the school will also feature strongly, especially the Uganda project. Practically, we will encourage students to look after each other, to stay safe in their daily practices, and to choose healthy lifestyles.

We also know that Carlisle does not offer as much as other cities in terms of cultural enrichment for students. Therefore, we will ensure that in assemblies, and in form time, as well as through lessons in Art, Music, English etc, and in extra-curricular activities that we provide opportunities for students to experience as much culture as we can provide for them. We are an active and busy school, and we encourage participation in school and community events. We articulate the importance of the wider real world in which we live and work, and we expect respect and consideration to be part of our students' attitudes to others.

Roles and responsibilities of the Co-headteachers, of other staff and of Governors

The **Co-headteachers** will ensure that:

- the governing body is consulted about the broad nature and arrangements for collective worship. (This will be done through the Church Foundation Governors' Committee, and through links with the Diocese.)
- a daily act of collective worship is provided for all students, within the constraints of the capacity of the school's assembly halls. (Where this is not possible, material will be provided for each form to spend time in reflection each day.)
- alternative provision is made for students whose parents/carers request that they do not attend collective worship.
- a rota is drawn up to ensure that the school makes effective use of its spaces for collective worship and arranges for the leading of the school's assemblies.

The **chaplain** will ensure that:

- notes are provided for staff leading assemblies and times of collective worship in forms, so that there is a consistent approach throughout the school.

- the school continues to develop our links with the cathedral and to involve other ministers in our worship.
- the effectiveness and quality of our collective worship are evaluated and that this evaluation leads to further improvements in our practice.
- students have opportunities in school, for example through the Christian Union, to explore spiritual questions in depth and openly, and to take further issues raised in our assemblies.

School Leaders will ensure that:

- an act of Collective Worship, with time for reflection for all students, happens each day in form time and in assemblies.
- in leading acts of worship, they do so in the light of this policy and in keeping with the school's ethos as a Church of England school.
- due weighting and emphasis are given to the various requirements expressed in this policy.

All **staff** are invited to participate in and make an active contribution to collective worship, and to encourage students to become actively involved. This will occur through House assemblies and in the Year 12/13 assemblies in the Sixth Form. Each tutor group will be given the opportunity during the school year to lead an assembly.

The **governing body** will:

- ensure the regular review of the school's policy on Collective Worship, and that through it the school is fulfilling its statutory duty.
- ensure that the school evaluates and develops its approach to collective worship for the benefits of all students and staff.
- receive a report annually about the school's arrangements for Collective Worship, through the Church Foundation committee each September.

Arrangements for monitoring and evaluation

Feedback will be gathered from staff and students about the impact of collective worship and the Senior Leadership Team will evaluate this.

The Church Foundation Committee will receive a report from the headteacher and chaplain annually on the themes covered in the daily acts of collective worship and how they complement the school's aims and values. Members of the committee will also attend assemblies during the year and report back to the group.

A report will also be made on the numbers withdrawn and the effectiveness of the alternative arrangements.

The SIAMS (Section 48) inspection will provide feedback on collective worship and its impact on students' spiritual development.