



Tiverton Academy

**COLLECTIVE WORSHIP
POLICY**

To be reviewed annually –September 2019

Tiverton Academy Collective Worship Policy

The Collective Worship Policy at Tiverton Academy pays due regard to statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by the LEA through its SACRE.

The Collective Worship Policy of Tiverton Academy reflects the philosophy, values and vision of the school as expressed in the school prospectus. The daily act of collective worship is viewed as an integral and important part of school life.

Definition of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims of Collective Worship

For the School:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos of Tiverton Academy and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate our different beliefs and faiths
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

For the Pupils:

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- worship that which is considered worthy
- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on what it means to be human

The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, at Tiverton Academy, Collective Worship will at times feature in aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in class. At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

Values Education

Our emphasis on Values Education creates opportunities for children to develop physically, emotionally, personally, socially, mentally and intelligently so that their self-esteem and well-being is sound and supported by ever growing emotional intelligence; leading to an understanding of their rights and responsibilities as young citizens. The systematic introduction of a common values vocabulary allows children to access moral and ethical thought.

The Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings and will take place in the school hall or the classroom.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognized that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

Collective worship takes place in the school hall on four occasions each week and one act of worship takes place in the classroom. Pupils from Y2 – Y6 attend whole school assemblies. Pupils in Reception and Year 1 have a daily class based act of worship / reflection time appropriate to their age.

Leadership

Every member of the school staff and occasional visitors will be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

Planning Acts of Collective Worship

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

Weekly assembly *overviews* list themes, special occasions and events, but will be flexible to allow the inclusion of current and topical issues. These will ensure that there is continuity and progression, and enable the monitoring and evaluation of acts of worship to take place.

The Act of Collective Worship

A variety of teaching and learning styles, active and interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the pupils.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and prayer.

If announcements are to be given at the same time as an act of worship then they will be of a positive nature, which at times may enhance the act of worship itself. Announcements will be made preceding the act of worship and a clearly defined break between them and the act of worship will be made.

Prayer and Reflection

Collective worship always includes a time of prayer and/or reflection, including hymn practice. All pupils and staff will take part in the school prayer at the end of every assembly. This also applies to class based assemblies. A copy of the school prayer is displayed in every classroom.

Withdrawal

Any parent who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with the Principal. Any pupil who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the school staff.