



ST MEWAN C P SCHOOL

Policy Co-ordinator – Alex Palmer

Collective Worship Policy

Date: July 2017

Review Date: July 2020

Context/Introduction

St Mewan School is a Primary School, serving a Cornish community in an almost totally and mostly nominal Christian area of the south-west of England. However, pupils are not immune from developments and influences in a wider world, through family and personal contacts, the media and from their education. It is a part of the aims of the school to offer a wide ranging education, to prepare pupils for life not only in their own community but in a wider world.

Legal Requirements

(For details see School Standard and Framework Act 1998 and Circular 1/94)

- All pupils must take part in a daily act of collective worship, unless they have been withdrawn from it by their parents
- Parents have the right to withdraw their children from collective worship
- As St Mewan is a county school, collective worship must be 'mainly of a broadly Christian character', that is be within the broad traditions of Christian beliefs, on the majority of occasions
- Collective worship must be non-denominational in county schools

Aims of Collective Worship

Collective Worship at St Mewan gives every child the opportunity to:

- Establish, affirm and celebrate the common and shared values of the school
- Gain experience of being members of a community influenced by faith
- Develop appropriate skills as citizens
- Develop spiritually, morally, culturally and socially by reflecting upon their own beliefs, values and experiences
- Worship God

Worship is understood as an act of collective worship in a county school, and can be interpreted very openly, and widely, as an act which brings a school group to a point where they are able to make a shared, reflective response to a divine being, power ideal or value of some worth, mainly within the broad traditions of Christian belief on the majority of occasions.



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Collective Worship is an essential element in the schools' promotion of the spiritual and moral development of pupils as required by ERA 1988.

Approaches

Daily worship is provided through the following means:

- Acts of worship in class – On the days the children do not have assemblies.
- Acts of worship by key stage group assemblies (Infants: Thursday 3:00pm/Friday 9:15am – Juniors: Tuesday 3:00pm/Friday 10:10am)

The pattern is as follows:

Management

Responsibility for collective worship in St Mewan School lies with the Headteacher, who has delegated its organisation to Miss Palmer. The task of the co-ordinator is:

- To provide a rota of leaders of worship
- To provide a sequence of themes for each term
- To establish and maintain a resource base
- To liaise with the local community in terms of visitors

Methods

There should be a suitable variety of methods for collective worship to enable the experience to be as valid and relevant to the pupils as possible. There will also be a ritual element associated with some of these methods to allow the pupils to benefit from the security and pattern of worshipping together.

These will include the following, as is appropriate to the nature of the occasion:

- Music on entry and/or exit
- Hymns/songs
- Use of prayers, including the children's own, and the Lord's Prayer (in its traditional form)
- Readings from suitable sources, including the Bible, but also other sources of worth

At St Mewan we have a policy that is flexible and takes into account happenings in the local community too.

Resources



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The school maintains a resource base for collective worship in the library/Miss Palmer's classroom, to which new material will be added, as finance permits.

Visitors

At St Mewan we do enjoy welcoming visitors into our assemblies. However, we would ask that you are respectful of our children's beliefs (they may not be the same as yours!) An invitation to pray or simply an opportunity to sit quietly and reflect on what they have been listening to will show a sensitivity to their needs.