

Clyro Church in Wales Primary School



Clyro Church in Wales
Primary School

Policy for Collective Worship

Our school motto is "Many hands build a house, many hearts build a school" and our aim is to make sure that all children value themselves and others and feel safe, secure and yet stimulated during Collective Worship.

This policy should be taken and used as part of Clyro Church in Wales Primary School's overall strategy for Religious Education and implemented within the context of our vision, instrument of government aims and our values as a Church of Wales School.

The Governing body, in consultation with the Headteacher, has formally adopted this policy. It is consistent with the overall aims of the school which are to

- Admire the wonders of God's world together,
- Inspire a love of life-long learning in everybody,
- Make a welcoming and exciting place for everybody,
- Share and care for everybody in it.

Aims

In our school we aim to give all children the opportunity to worship God, consider and respond to spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs and the spiritual dimension of life within a shared experience. We also give time for reflection.

We base our acts of worship on Christian values and encourage participation and response, aiming to develop a sense of community spirit, shared values and positive attitudes. Children are encouraged to take an active part in the proceedings by choosing hymns and prayers, responding to ideas and by contributing songs, prayers, drama, poetry etc. of their own. Children are also given the opportunity to lead the act of worship either individually or in small groups.

Daily Act of Worship

It is the Headteacher's responsibility to ensure that there is a daily act of worship although other members of staff, local clergy, pupils and visitors are involved in leading these acts. Efforts are made to ensure the act of worship is distinct from other school activities. The acts of worship are Anglican in nature. Christian symbols (cross and candle) are used to create a simple mobile altar. The acts of worship are relevant to the lives of the children and the school.

Celebration Assembly

Every Friday we hold a 'Celebration Assembly' in which children's achievements are celebrated and we offer thanks for aspects of our lives.

Links with church

A weekly act of worship is taken by the vicar of the local church, Rev. David Thomas, who is also a governor of the school. All members of our school attend church services throughout the year in St. Michaels and All Angels Church in Clyro, specifically for Harvest, Easter and Christmas Services. Year 6 children attend the Leavers Service at Brecon Cathedral to celebrate their time in primary education.

Right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their children wholly or partially from Collective Worship, in accordance with the Education Act. They are advised of this right in the school prospectus and must put their request in writing, following discussion with the Headteacher and/or Chair of Governors. The school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn. All staff also have the right to withdraw from Collective Worship.

Organisation and Planning

There is a form of Collective Worship on a daily basis. Each singular act of Collective Worship is part of a whole school programme. The current term's Values and themes are given to staff and have been decided upon by the School Council.

When planned and executed well and with sincerity, collective worship can be a rich source of inspiration for the whole school and a focus for all that is good and worthy of celebration. Acts of worship should be prepared in advance.

The pattern of the Collective worship is:

Monday - Whole school - Mrs. Phillips (Deputy Head)
Tuesday - Whole school - led by staff members
Wednesday - Whole school - Mrs. Groves (Headteacher)
Thursday - Whole school - Rev. Thomas (9.30am)
Friday - Whole school - Celebration Assembly - Staff/Learners

There is a simple recording sheet system in place.

Pupils are also involved in the leading of worship when appropriate. The collective worship will always contain a prayer or a reflective time. It might also include the following:

- Singing hymns or songs
- Music
- Reading from the bible
- Telling stories
- Drama/dance
- Visitors
- Lord's Prayer
- Silence
- Visual aids/artefacts
- Silence
- Poetry

Each class participates in a Welsh class grace in the hall at the beginning of lunch time and a Welsh home time prayer in classrooms at the end of the day.

Welsh

Parts of the collective worship are conducted in Welsh. Some simple songs and prayers may be in Welsh. Welsh stories are included as appropriate.

Date reviewed: To be reviewed in 2 years or sooner if appropriate

Signed: (Chair of Governors)

..... (Head Teacher)