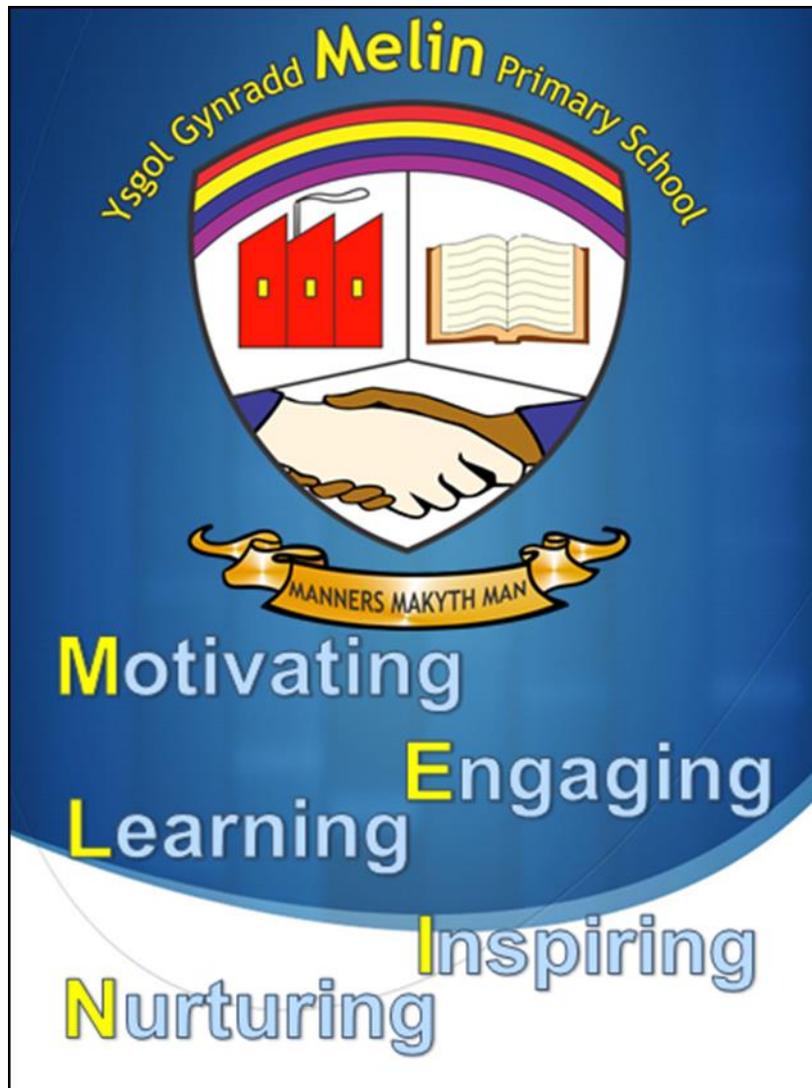
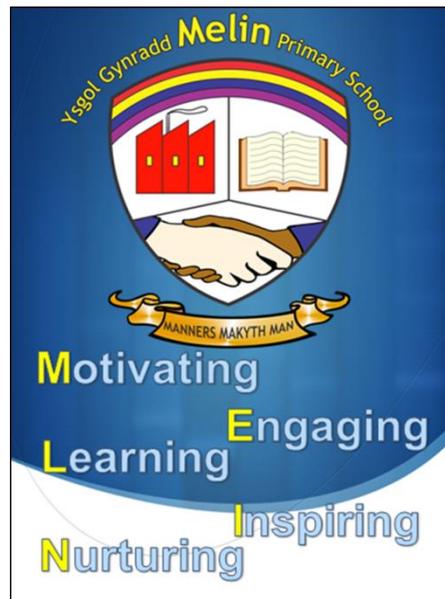


Melin Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

September 2016



Beliefs and Values

At Melin Primary School we believe that the emotional wellbeing of the child, developed through a curriculum based on activity and experience is at the heart of learning.

We aim to provide a safe, caring and stimulating learning environment across the Primary phase in which children are given the best opportunities to develop into literate, numerate, digitally competent, creative life-long learners so that they reach their potential.

We work together with the adults in our children's lives to ensure that they are safe, happy and are empowered to make a change in their lives.

Aims

The aims and purpose of collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for the children to worship God;
- To enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues;
- To enable children to explore their own beliefs;
- To encourage participation and response;
- To develop in children a sense of community spirit;
- To promote a common ethos with shared values and to reinforce positive attitudes;
- To teach children how to worship.

Collective Worship

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion whose purpose is to show reverence to God. Collective worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly.

In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and traditions in the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the individual faith and beliefs of all members of the school.

While the majority of acts of worship in our school are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and wider community.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship in our school. This forms part of each morning assembly.

We conduct acts of worship and assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that assembly time is a period of calm reflection. We regard it as a special time and expect children to behave in an appropriate way. We ask them to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully to the teachings and participate fully in prayer and hymns.

The Headteacher, deputy headteacher or members of teaching staff normally conduct assemblies, with regular contributions from local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups.

We take the themes of our assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith and we often reflect the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies reflect and build on topics from the SEAL PSE scheme that we teach as part of the school curriculum.

We plan our assemblies as part of a series of themes well in advance of the day they take place.

Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in assemblies by showing their work to the other children and raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies offer an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements both in and out of schools. They

play an important part in promoting the ethos of the school including the Welsh dimension, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised.

Certificates and prizes for good attendance, achievement in reading, spelling, numeracy and attendance of courses, events etc. are awarded in assembly. Similarly, children are encouraged to bring in out-of-school awards and certificates, which are duly copied and placed in the ROPA file. Melin Primary School is a successful school and we shall celebrate the success of all the children in assemblies.

Right of Withdrawal

We expect all children to attend assembly. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of the nine term self evaluation procedure or changes to statutory Curriculum orders, whichever is sooner.

T. Richards

September 2016