



BRYNMILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The Policy for Collective Worship at Brynmill Primary School follows the guidance of:

- ◆ Circular 1/94 Religious Education and Collective Worship
- ◆ School Standards and Framework Act 1998 – Chapter VI
- ◆ Swansea LEA Guidelines on Collective Worship in Maintained Schools.

'In the light of the Christian traditions of Great Britain, collective worship is to be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character'. (ERA 1988, Education Act 1993)

ERA (1988) and the Education Act (1993) state that acts of worship may contain certain elements drawn from a number of different faiths but that, within each term, the majority of acts of worship must be wholly, or mainly, of a broadly Christian character.

At Brynmill Primary School, our collective worship is broadly Christian but is distinct from corporate worship within one particular faith group. There are occasions when other faiths are the focus during collective worship (for example, festivals, holy days, etc.).

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 states that each pupil in attendance at a community school shall, on each day, take part in an act of collective worship. If parents request that their child(ren) be wholly or partly excused from attendance at religious worship in the school, this shall be respected.

At Brynmill Primary School, pupils take part in a daily act of collective worship and other arrangements are made for those pupils who are exempt.

The Purpose of Collective Worship

- ◆ To contribute to a sense of unity and community for the school as a whole.
- ◆ To promote spiritual, cultural and moral development.

Principles of Assembly

Assemblies/collective worship should be pupil-centred, related to pupils' own experience and concerns. They should acknowledge diversity, and pupils should take an active part in assemblies. They can complement the PSE SEAL curriculum. Assemblies should be spiritual: a time for reflection and individual worship.

Aims of Collective Worship

- ◆ To provide the opportunity for an experience of worship.
- ◆ To reflect on the values and concerns of the school and the community it serves.
- ◆ To deepen and widen a child's emotional response.
- ◆ To enable children to gain insights into ways in which people express themselves according to their faith and beliefs.
- ◆ To promote respect and sensitivity for the beliefs and values of others.

Objectives of Collective Worship

To develop a sense of:

- ◆ awe, wonder and mystery
- ◆ interdependence with the natural world
- ◆ tolerance and respect
- ◆ pattern, sequence and order
- ◆ self-worth and the worth of others.



To develop awareness that:

- ◆ life involves choices of belief/attitude/behaviour/relationships
- ◆ there are issues of meaning, purpose and value in life.

At Brynmill Primary School the principles of all assemblies are that they should be:

- ◆ inclusive
- ◆ educational
- ◆ spiritual, moral, & cultural

In addition to the above, they should contribute to the moral, social and cultural development of children. They should include worship and/or Christian worship and are seen as special times when children can feel secure, relaxed and part of a community.

In Brynmill Primary School, the timetable of daily collective worship is as follows:

Monday - Circle time 20 minutes/ 10 minutes reflection (collective worship). Moral in nature and to include an act of worship and reflection.

Tuesday: 9:00 am to 9:15 am - Hymn Practice/ collective worship/ Bible stories (Mrs Orphan-Foundation Phase. Mr Orphan- Key Stage 2). This is teacher led in Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. An act of worship is included.

Wednesday: Class collective worship - 10 minutes in class - short story that is from the Bible, a spiritual, moral or cultural story based on the theme of that week. This is followed by a class prayer and short reflection.

Thursday: 9:00 am to 9:20 am - Celebration assembly – Star of the week (Key Stage 2 & Upper Foundation Phase). An act of worship and time for reflection are always included.

Friday: 9:00 am to 9:20 am - Class led assembly for the whole school/Whole school assembly/Key Stage Assembly. These follow the theme of the week. Parents are invited to these class led assemblies. Acts of worship and reflection time are always included.

Planning

Assemblies are planned on a weekly basis, incorporating a theme that fosters spiritual, cultural and moral development. Themes include examples from various religious cultures and are linked to the Calendar of Religious Festivals for the year:

- ◆ religious events
- ◆ special days
- ◆ special events in the life of Brynmill Primary School
- ◆ topics being undertaken.

In addition to this, themes are planned around the Wales SEAL curriculum. The topics are:

- New beginnings
- Getting on and falling out
- Say no to bullying
- Going for goals
- Good to be me
- Relationships
- Changes



Welsh assemblies are also held twice a term and consist of a story read in Welsh, Welsh hymns/songs and prayers. Y Criw Cymraeg play a part in these assemblies and reward children and staff for using Welsh around the school.

Rights Respecting School

At Brynmill Primary School, we follow and keep the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). We believe that every child in our school has the right to the 42 Articles. The Articles relevant to this policy are:-

- All children have these rights no matter what. Article 2.
- You have the right to say what you think should be happened and be listened to. Article 12.
- You have the right to follow your own religion. Article 14.

Welsh

Welsh is used in our assemblies and reflects that we are a school in Wales. This takes the form of greetings and simple questions and phrases. Y Patrwm yr Wythnos/pythefnos is displayed in the hall and used during assemblies. A Welsh School prayer has been developed and recited in assemblies.

Curriculum Cymreig

Where possible links to aspects of Welsh religion/stories and current affairs are included in assemblies.

Assemblies

- ◆ Meetings are arranged to develop a sense of occasion.
- ◆ Children are expected to enter and leave quietly
- ◆ While the children are in the Hall, they sit in class groups on the floor, with exception of Year 6, who have the privilege of sitting on benches.
- ◆ Parents and members of the local community are invited regularly to assemblies each term.
- ◆ Visiting speakers are invited on a regular basis.

The Law

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from acts of worship.

Arrangements are made for those children who are withdrawn from collective worship. They are given appropriate work and supervised in the activity room by members of staff (on a rota basis).

The Education Reform Act does not define collective worship. At Brynmill Primary School, we focus on someone or something that promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development of all children. We also endeavour, as part of our overarching aim for pupils to fulfil their full potential across the curriculum, to ensure that all children are given the necessary support to access learning in this area in line with our equal opportunity and disability policies.



The Brynmill Primary School Prayer

This is our school, let peace dwell here
Let the rooms be full of contentment
Let love abide here,
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
Love of life itself,
And love of God.
Let us remember
That, as many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school.

The Brynmill School Welsh Prayers

Diolch i ti am y byd,
Diolch am ein bwyd pob dydd,
Diolch am yr haul a'r glaw,
Diolch Dduw am bopeth ddaw,

Diolch I ti Dduw am helpu, helpu ni am helpu eraill

Policy approved by Curriculum Committee on

Policy Ratified By Governors on -----

This policy will be reviewed in -----

**Signed: -----
Headteacher**

**Signed: -----
Chair of Governors**