



St Newlyn East
Learning Academy



Collective Worship Policy

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| Version Number | V1 |
| Date Adopted by Governors | 27 th February 2025 |
| Scheduled Review Date | Spring 2027 |
| Statutory or Best Practice Policy | Statutory |
| School or Trust Policy | School |

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01637 303106 or email info@kernowlearning.co.uk.

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1. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of school assembly and collective worship are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to explore spirituality and personal reflection;
- To enable children to consider moral and ethical issues;
- To encourage children to explore their own beliefs and values;
- To foster participation, discussion, and response;
- To develop in children a sense of community and shared experience;
- To promote a common ethos, reinforcing positive attitudes and school values;
- To expose children to a range of worship practices from different faiths and traditions.

2. Collective worship

- 2.1 We understand worship to be a special act or occasion that encourages reflection and exploration of spiritual, moral, and ethical ideas. Collective worship involves all members of the Academy coming together for assemblies, which provide opportunities for discussion, storytelling, music, and reflection.
- 2.2 In line with the 1988 Education Reform Act, which states that collective worship should be 'wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character', we ensure that Christian festivals and values are marked within our practice. However, we also embrace and mark festivals, teachings, and events from a range of world religions to promote understanding and inclusivity.
- 2.3 While some assemblies contain acts of collective worship, this does not apply to every assembly. Acts of collective worship are more commonly observed when marking key Christian festivals such as Christmas and Easter, as well as during our termly visits to the church for Christmas, Easter, and the Leavers' Service. Throughout the year, children are also exposed to examples of worship from other faiths to support their understanding of different religious traditions and practices.
- 2.4 Every assembly concludes with a moment for reflection, where pupils are invited to consider the teachings shared and how they can apply these lessons to their own lives. This reflective approach aligns with the 'Windows, Mirrors, Doors' model used in Religious Education (RE) teaching:
- Windows: Looking out at different worldviews, experiences, and beliefs.
 - Mirrors: Encouraging personal reflection and connection with what has been learned.
 - Doors: Providing opportunities for pupils to take action and apply what they have learned in their own lives.

3. Organisation of collective worship

3.1 Assemblies provide opportunities for collective reflection, moral and ethical discussions, and celebration of achievements. These assemblies include whole-school and class assemblies, such as singing assemblies on Thursdays.

3.2 Assemblies are conducted in a respectful and inclusive manner, creating a calm environment for children to engage in reflection. We use music, visual aids, and other focus objects to enhance the reflective atmosphere.

3.3 Assemblies are normally led by the Headteacher or other members of staff, but may also be led by local clergy, faith representatives, or guest speakers from different backgrounds, including non-religious visitors who share music, inspirational stories, or safety messages.

3.4 We take inspiration from a variety of sources, using stories from the Bible, as well as teachings and narratives from other religious traditions. Assemblies also cover wider world events, Picture News, protected characteristics, school values, and our 'golden roots'. We recognise the overlap between Christian values and universal moral teachings and ensure that our assemblies reflect these shared principles.

3.5 Assemblies also provide opportunities to celebrate pupils' achievements. Our Friday 'Citizen' Assemblies allow us to recognize and reward children for their contributions in and out of school. These assemblies play a vital role in reinforcing our school values and ethos of developing 'happy, lifelong learners.'

3.6 Governors are always welcome to attend our assemblies to observe and support our approach to collective worship.

3.7 We value our 'school creed' highly – this is a form of school prayer which closes each assembly in a respectful manner.

4. Right of withdrawal

4.1 We encourage all children to attend assembly as a valuable part of their personal and social development. However, parents have the right to request that their child be excused from religious worship, in accordance with the 1944 Education Act and the 1988 Education Reform Act. The Academy will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of these children during this time.

4.2 The Headteacher maintains a record of all children withdrawn from collective worship.

5. Monitoring and review

5.1 5.1 The Governors monitor the policy and practice of collective worship to ensure it remains inclusive and reflective of our Academy's ethos.

5.2 5.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every two years to ensure it continues to align with best practice and the needs of our school community.

Dated reviewed 13th February 2025

Next review date: February 2027