



St Newlyn East
Learning Academy



Kernow Learning
Building Excellent Schools Together

Collective Worship Policy

Version number:	1
Date adopted by LGB:	May 2023
Scheduled review date:	May 2025
Statutory or Best Practice policy:	Statutory
Appendices:	No
School or Trust policy:	School

Meeting your communication needs:

We want to ensure that your needs are met. If you would like this information in any other format, please contact us on 01872 510407 or email stnewlyn@kernowlearning.co.uk

1. Aims and objectives

The aims and objectives of collective worship are:

- to provide an opportunity for 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.

2. Collective worship

2.1 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 Academy coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly.

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 normally base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and the traditions of the Christian Church. However, we conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the Academy.

2.3 While most acts of worship in our Academy are Christian, we also hold assemblies that reflect the traditions of other religions that are represented in the Academy and the wider community.

3 Organisation of collective worship

3.1 For each assembly, we hold an act/form of collective worship. This will take place for the whole-school or class assemblies, e.g. singing assemblies on Wednesdays.

3.2 We conduct 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, to listen carefully to the teachings, and to participate fully in prayer and hymns. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, and sometimes candles or other objects, to focus the attention of the children.

3.3 The assemblies are normally conducted by the Headteacher or other members of staff, but are sometimes led by local clergy or other representatives of local religious groups (e.g. Reverend Chris Mcquillen-Wright at St. Newlyn East Church).

3.4 We take the themes of our assemblies from the traditions of the Christian faith, and we observe the festivals and mark the events of the Christian calendar. Sometimes the themes of our assemblies are related to topics that we teach as part of the Academy curriculum.

3.5 Our assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies by showing their work to the other children, and by



raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Our Friday 'Citizen' Assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school. They also play an important part in promoting the value of the Academy which ultimately lead to ...'happy, lifelong learners.'

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

3.6 Governors' attendance at our assemblies is always welcome.

4. Right of withdrawal

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

4.2 The Headteacher keeps a record of all children who have been withdrawn from collective worship.

5 Monitoring and review

5.1 The Governors monitor the policy and practice of collective worship.

5.2 This policy will be reviewed at least every two years.

Dated reviewed 30th March 2023

Next review date: March 2025

