

NANTWICH PRIMARY ACADEMY AND NURSERY

PRINCIPAL – Sue Spence

Collective Worship Policy



<p>PAGE: 1 of 3 ISSUE: ONE DATE: NOVEMBER 2018 REVIEW: NOVEMBER 2019</p>
<p>Approved by:</p>

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Nantwich Primary Academy and Nursery is a community academy and it is important that we have time to come together as a community, to reflect, to celebrate and to share. We strive for excellence in education by providing a safe, secure, caring family environment, where individuals are valued and respected, enabling them to reach their full potential, whilst growing in their love and understanding of the Christian Faith.

Collective Worship is a time when the whole school, or groups within the school meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Aims and purpose

The aims and purpose of collective worship at Nantwich Primary Academy and Nursery are:

- ☐ to enable children to consider spiritual and moral issues
- ☐ to enable children to explore their own beliefs
- ☐ to encourage participation and response
- ☐ to respect individuality and celebrate diversity
- ☐ 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
- ☐ to provide an opportunity for personal and shared reflection
- ☐ to celebrate and give thanks for achievements within the school, the local and international community and occasions of significance including festivals

Collective worship

We understand worship to be a special act or occasion where the purpose is to show our faith and spiritual belief together as an academy. Collective worship involves all members of the school community coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in the assembly. We base our assemblies on the teachings of Christ and traditions of the Christian Church. However as we live in a religiously diverse society, 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 may also hold assemblies that reflect other religious traditions that are represented in the school and the wider community

Organisation of collective worship

We hold weekly assemblies in our academy, both within class and as a whole. We meet as a whole school at least three times a week where the collective worship focuses on school attendance, learning behaviours and values led by Mrs Lyall-Brookes and Mrs Spence. Class assemblies focus on personal, social, health and emotional issues as well as spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) issues. Additional special assemblies are held to focus on special events and celebrations such as Remembrance, Harvest, Christmas etc.

There is a strong link with British Values during assemblies as we try to instil in the children the positive qualities we expect them to exhibit and that will empower them to succeed as they progress through life.

Friday's assembly is led by a member of the senior management team. It celebrates our successes, special achievements, work (Learning Power Heroes), behaviour and birthdays. Parents are encouraged to join us to show their support for the academy and their children.

We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. We tell children that collective worship 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. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music and sometimes candles or other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children.

Withdrawing pupils from collective worship

All parents have the right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship. If a parent wishes to exercise this right, the request should be made in writing to the Principal.

Signed by Chair of Governors

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Signed by Principal

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Date

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