



Cardiff West Community High School

Daily Act of Collective Worship Policy

Established: September 2018
To be reviewed: September 2020



An artist's impression of our new Cardiff West Community High School in Trelai Park, opening Spring 2019

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Outline our **Daily Act of Collective Worship (DACW)**
- Provide a **consistent approach** to collective worship
- Outline **how pupils are expected to respond to DACW**
- Summarise the **roles and responsibilities** of different people in the school community with regards to DACW
- To promote, and to enable pupils' **spiritual, moral, cultural and social development.**
- To enable pupils to **explore their own beliefs** in ways appropriate to their age.
- To encourage **participation and response**, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to, watching or joining in worship.
- To **encourage respect and understanding** for those with different beliefs and religious practices.

2. Legislation and statutory requirements

This policy is based on advice from the Welsh Assembly Government, Wales Association of Standing Advisory Councils for Religious Education (WASACRE) and ESTYN:

[School Standards and Framework Act 1998](#)

[Guidance on Collective Worship - WASACRE](#)

[Religious Education and Collective Worship](#)

[ESTYN Supplementary Guidance - collective worship in non-denominational schools](#)

3. Definitions

Collective Worship is 'educationally meaningful when they provide opportunities to engage with the needs of all learners, whatever their faith or belief background. Good collective worship promotes spiritual development, contributes to personal development, benefits the whole school community, links the school community and the wider local community, and enhances awareness of global citizenship.' WASACRE Guidance on Collective Worship 2012

4. Collective Worship and the Law

The school has a statutory obligation, and will follow the legal requirement to provide a daily act of collective worship for all pupils:

- Every pupil must have the opportunity to join in with a daily act of collective worship.
- Pupils have the right to withdraw from the daily act of collective worship at the request of their parents.
- Post-16 pupils may request the right to withdraw for themselves.
- Teachers have the right to withdraw from conducting daily acts of collective worship but this cannot hinder pupils from accessing their daily act of collective worship.

- The acts of worship in school must mostly be of a Christian nature and link to Christian beliefs.
- Pupils are expected to participate in the act of worship.

5. The Right of Withdrawal

We expect all pupils to actively participate in the daily act of collective worship. However, any parent has the statutory right to withdraw their child from religious education or collective worship without giving their reasons. These withdrawals must be in written form to the Head teacher.

Members of staff likewise have the right of withdrawal. The Head Teacher keeps a record of all pupils and staff who are to be withdrawn from collective worship and will organise their activities and supervision by staff during collective worship.

6. Roles and responsibilities

6.1 The governing body

The full governing body is responsible for reviewing and approving the Daily Act of Collective Worship policy in conjunction with the Headteacher and will monitor the policy's effectiveness over the school year.

6.2 The Senior Leadership Team

The SLT is responsible for reviewing the Daily Act of Collective Worship policy in conjunction with the governing body.

The SLT will ensure that the school environment encourages positive spiritual, moral, cultural and social development and that the Daily Act of Collective Worship is applied consistently.

6.3 Staff

Staff are responsible for:

- Implementing the Daily Act of Collective Worship policy consistently.
- Providing pupils with a 'Thought for the Day' and a 'Reflection' from the DACW Calendar.
- Working with pupils to complete DACW Reflection Logs in Form Time.
- Displaying the DACW 'Thought of the Day' and 'Reflection' in classrooms at all times.
- Ensuring that every assembly has an opportunity for collective worship by displaying and using the DACW 'Thought of the Day' and 'Reflection'.

6.4 Parents

Parents are expected to:

- Inform the school of any request to withdraw their child from collective worship.
- Encourage their child to take a full part in the daily collective worship.
- Discuss the 'Thought for the Day' and 'Reflection' which they can find on the school website.