



**Kernow Learning**  
Building Excellent Schools Together

# Collective Worship Policy

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Statutory or Best Practice policy:	Statutory
Appendices:	N/A
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 01637 880272 or email [scmajor@kernowlearning.co.uk](mailto:scmajor@kernowlearning.co.uk)



## Aims

The aims and objectives of collective worship at St Columb Major Academy are to:

- Provide opportunities for reflection, participation, challenge and enjoyment where all present, can be actively involved and develop their own spirituality in a religious or non-religious way
- Evoke a sense of beauty, awe, wonder
- Develop a sense of self-worth and celebrate the gifts that each child and adult bring to the school community, recognising the uniqueness of each individual
- Reflect on the puzzling questions that life poses and learn to appreciate the significance of mystery
- Foster a concern for others within the school community and wider world
- Deepen appreciation of the gift of the natural world and the importance of acting responsibly toward the environment
- Enable children to explore their own beliefs
- Encourage respect of other people's religious beliefs and practices.

## General Principles

Collective Worship involves all members of the school coming together and participating in an assembly. We expect everyone to take an active part in our assemblies. We conduct our assemblies in a manner that is sensitive to the faiths and beliefs of all members of the school. Each half term we focus on one of our school values: perseverance, resilience, kindness, compassion, wisdom, forgiveness and respect.

## Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship. This can be either a whole school, a key stage, or a class assembly of pupils. We conduct collective worship 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, to listen carefully to the message, and to participate fully. We create an appropriate atmosphere by using music, pictures, and other objects, to focus the attention of the children. Our acts of worship and assemblies reflect the achievements and learning of the children. We encourage the children to participate in the assemblies and by raising issues that they have discussed in their classes. Assemblies provide an opportunity to reward children for their achievements both in and out of school and reflect on our school vision.

Our collective worship is led by members of staff and other invited visitors such as Open The Book volunteers, and visitors such as the RNLI, the town Mayor, sports professionals etc.





Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2.45pm picture news in the hall.	2.45pm Reading assembly class based online	2.45pm Singing assembly in the hall	2.45pm Open the book assembly class based	2.45pm Celebration assembly in the hall

### **The planning of Collective Worship**

Collective worship is planned to take account of the major festivals and seasons over the year and to link with the half termly school Values. It also covers other initiatives or topics of interest within the school. For each half term, there is a theme for collective worship based on the particular value for the term; those leading worship are encouraged to relate their worship to this theme. Those responsible for leading collective worship include the head and assistant head and teachers. The terms value, British values and protected characteristics are taught and illustrated through pictures and relevant news. Resources to aid and guide planning include picture news as well as online content drawn from assemblies.org.

### **Right of Withdrawal**

We expect all children to attend assembly however any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from religious worship. In this case the school 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, there is an expectation that parents wishing to request a withdrawal will meet with the Headteacher to discuss their concerns and requirements. This right of withdrawal complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

### **Format**

There is no hard and fast format as it is essential that acts of worship have a degree of spontaneity and flexibility, but the following elements are desirable:

- The main structure for collective worship will follow the following steps: Gather, engage, respond, send
- The act will have a clear focus or theme
- There will be time for reflection and stillness
- Recorded or live music may be used to create an atmosphere or focus
- A greeting is exchanged between the leader and participants
- Included in worship may be stories, Bible readings, dramatised readings, poetry, drama, dance, artefacts, or other visual aids
- At the end a prayer is shared
- Any notices etc, will be clearly separated from the Act of Worship. This is also the case when a special time is set aside to acclaim children who have made special achievements.





## **Conclusion**

At St Columb Major Academy, all should view collective worship as meaningful and valuable, a time when all adults and children are as one to reflect on joys, and sorrows, to express thanks, share concepts and experience and re-affirm the values of the school community of which they are all part.

