

The Nantlwys Federation



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

Approved On:	May 2025
Next Review	Summer Term 2028
Signed: Chair of Governors	<i>I. M. Roberts</i>

Collective Worship Policy

The Nantlwys federation is committed to offering high quality collective worship. We recognise and value collective worship as central to fostering a sense of cynefin and to expressing the federations's Christian vision. The Federation's mission statement is 'Challenging our Minds, Growing our Hearts'.

This document aims to ensure that collective worship remains the relevant and essential component of an education that enables all children and young people to flourish.

At the Nantlwys Federation, collective worship is seen as more than a daily 'awe and wonder' moment. It is the unique heartbeat of the school and is offered as part of a wider opportunity for learners and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God, both as individuals and together. This happens in partnership with our local linked churches in Nannerch and Nercwys.

This form of encounter through worship should be truly welcoming, inclusive and exemplifying the principles of Christian hospitality. This is an approach that seeks to meet the needs of all, wherever they may be on their journey of faith and belief.

Legal requirements

In line with legal requirements, The Nantlwys Federation provides opportunities for daily acts of collective worship. Worship in the Nantlwys Federation is distinctly Christian and reflects Anglican traditions. The act of worship will reflect the school's Christian foundation and the Trust Deed/ Ethos Statement of both schools.

The right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from collective worship. The school will provide suitable alternative arrangements for those pupils who are withdrawn.

Key Principles of Collective Worship at the Nantlwys Federation

Inclusive

Worship is collective in that it involves meeting, exploring, questioning, and responding to others and, for some, to God. At the Nantlwys Federation, learners, their families and other adults can expect to encounter worship that is inclusive of, and fully accessible to, all. Collective worship should not be 'done to' but will involve meaningful contributions from the whole school community, including learners.

Invitational

Parents, learners and all members of the school community can expect to encounter worship that is consistently invitational. There should be no compulsion to 'do anything'. Rather, worship should provide the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom of those of different faiths and those who profess no religious faith to be present and to engage with integrity.

Inspiring

Learners and adults can expect the worship they encounter at the Nantlwys Federation to be inspirational. Worship should be formational and transformational: it should enable all members of the school community to ask big questions about who we are and why we do what we do. It should motivate children, young people and adults into action, into thinking differently, and into reflecting on their and the wider community's behaviour and actions. As a result of inspirational collective worship, they should be inspired to social action. It should encourage them to think searchingly about their faith, beliefs and/or non-religious philosophical convictions.

Aims

Collective worship at The Nantlwys Federation will do the following:

- Develop learners' understanding of the traditions and practices of the Church in Wales
- Contribute significantly to the spiritual development of all members of the school community
- Employ a blend of approaches to worship relevant to the context of learners and the school's cynefin
- Afford opportunities for children and young people to take increasing responsibility for leading, monitoring and evaluating collective worship
- Contribute positively to the well-being of all members of the school community

Provision

Daily worship is planned and delivered by teachers, Headteacher with the involvement of the school's worship committee. The local clergy and Open the Book attend school regularly to help lead service.

Collective worship includes opportunities to reflect, sing hymns, share prayers including prayers the children have written themselves. An order of service can be found in the appendix

Throughout the year, the school meet to celebrate and mark certain seasons in the Church calendar, such as Lent and Advent. Other important events in the school year, such as the start and end of the academic year, may be marked by formal acts of collective worship. At the Nantlwys Federation a different Christian value is identified each term and explored through collective worship. Children, young people and adults will encounter regular prayer and worship as a normal part of school life at different times of the day.

Objectives of Collective Worship at the Nantlwys Federation

- To introduce pupils to the practice of prayer, to learn and use the Lord's Prayer, the Grace, and to write and use their own prayers.
- To introduce pupils to the use of silence in worship and to use it creatively.
- To teach pupils hymns and other spiritual songs so that they may participate in worship.
- To encourage and provide opportunities for children to lead worship
- To encourage pupils' spiritual, moral, cultural and social development and especially the key Christian virtues and values of, hope, trust, compassion, wisdom, community and perseverance.
- To celebrate the success and achievement of the school, of its individual pupils and staff.
- To celebrate and encourage respect for other religions.
- To organise occasional services in the local Church.
- To make parents aware of the voluntary nature of collective worship and of their right to withdraw their children from daily worship.

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- To provide suitable alternative arrangements for those pupils who are withdrawn.
- To ensure that adequate material resources are available to supportive collective worship.
- To promote the school's Values throughout the curriculum.

As well as coming together as a whole school for Collective Worship every day, Worship takes place at other key points throughout the day.

Staff development

- Staff should have access to regular and relevant training
- Pupil worship leaders should be encouraged and supported to contribute meaningful acts of worship
- Staff, leaders and pupils should have access to good quality resources
- There should be a named member of staff responsible for collective worship with responsibility for ensuring that appropriate policy and practice including safeguarding procedures are in place
- The Bishop's visitor is a source of advice and guidance for collective worship at the Nantlwys Federation

Links with other policies

We ensure that the principles of collective worship are reflected and applied in our policies and practice including those that are concerned with health and wellbeing, staff recruitment, professional development, positive behavior and inclusion.

Review

- ❖ This policy was agreed after consultation with staff and governors.
- ❖ To be reviewed every 3 years