



## Cathedral Academy

**Policy:** Collective Worship Policy

**Date of review:** May 2018

**Date of next review:** May 2021

**Lead professional:** Principal

**Status:** Non-Statutory

**Name of Academy Chaplain:** Miriam Kearney

Our Academy is a caring Christian community. We do what is right for each and every student; to ensure that young people in our care fulfil their potential; to strongly believe that we can, no matter what the challenge is; to be outstanding within outstanding. Within this environment we aim to develop individuals of Christian character who can achieve their full potential; can think for themselves; will want to continue learning and will become responsible members of society. Our 4 core Christian values of empathy, honesty, respect and responsibility are reflected upon each day in collective worship and in student and staff absolutes.

*Everything is possible for one who believes Mark 9:23*

### **Philosophy**

Many students attend the Academy having not attended Church before. However, what is important to us, is that all students of faith or not, are invited to embrace our Christian ethos.

Our Christian values and the teaching of core RS enable us to develop our students holistically. We adapt to our cohort and, as well as developing students spiritually through collective worship, morally through the 4 core values and student absolutes and socially through tutor groups and all staff presence, we place much Christian value in developing student cultural capital.

Our Worship takes place in tutor time and is an important part of the school day as it gives us the opportunity to come together as a school community to uncover the immanent Creator God who is in all things, express and celebrate our commonality and encourage students and staff to reflect on how they live their lives. It is attended by all students, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in. We take 2 minutes each day to stop, be still and recite the Academy prayer. It is a quiet moment in the day in which to take a breath and reflect.

At the Academy we recognise that Collective Worship is an important opportunity to support our students' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development. Collective Worship is integral to our Christian identity and sense of belonging to the world wide Church.

### **Aims**

It is our aim at Cathedral Academy that worship should:-

- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to praise and reach out to God
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity respond to Christian language and symbolism
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet
- provide members of the school community with the opportunity to experience a variety of forms of prayer and meditation. These might include:
  - praise
  - seeking forgiveness, asking on behalf of self and others or
  - quiet reflection
  - to help students to begin to understand the nature and purpose of worship
  - provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future
  - contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of each child
  - allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings
- foster and enable a concern for the needs of others and a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others

- celebrate and give thanks for the achievements within the school, local and international community and occasions of significance, including festivals.
- promote community cohesion
- give expression to, and reaffirm and practise the values of the school community

Please see the table below for an overview of our collective worship opportunities.

### Collective Worship Overview 2018-19

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 11	Collective Worship	Planner/attendance/equipment	Form Worship	News/Safeguarding	Literacy/Numeracy
Year 10	Planner/attendance/equipment	Collective Worship	Form Worship	News/safeguarding	Literacy/numeracy
Year 9	Planner/attendance/equipment	Form Worship	Collective Worship	News/Safe guarding	Literacy Numeracy
Year 8	Planner/attendance/equipment	Form Worship	News/Safe guarding	Collective Worship	Literacy/Numeracy
Year 7	Planner/attendance/equipment	Form Worship	News/Safe guarding	Literacy/Numeracy	Collective Worship

Week beginning	Week	Worship theme	Staff member responsible
03/09/18	C	New Beginnings	RMH
10/09/18	A	Education	KTY
17/09/18	B	International Day of Peace	KTY
24/09/18	C	Kindness is a language that everyone can understand	KCY
01/10/18	A	Uganda Update	MKY
08/10/18	B	The Power of Words	MKY
15/10/18	C	HOY celebration assemblies (Harvest services to be led by MKY during this week)	HOY
22/10/18			
29/10/18			
05/11/18	A	We will remember them	KTY
12/11/18	B	Anti Bullying Week	KTY
19/11/18	C	Homelessness	MKY
26/11/18	A	Gifts and Talents	NPT
03/12/18	B	Advent	MKY
10/12/18	C	What do you hope for?	KTY
17/12/18	A	HOY Celebration assemblies (Christmas services to be led by MKY during this week)	HOY
24/12/18			
31/12/18			

07/01/19	B	Keeping yourself safe	KTY
14/01/19	C	Respect	CROSS PROJECT
21/01/19	A	Holocaust Memorial Day	KTY
28/01/19	B	Celebrating Community	RPG
04/02/19	C	Forgiveness	KTY
11/02/19	A	HOY Celebration assemblies	HOY
18/02/19			
25/02/19	B	What's fair about trade?	MKY
04/03/19	C	Lent	KTY
11/03/19	A	Prejudice	KTY
18/03/19	B	World Water Day	MKY
25/03/19	C	Role Models	RLN
01/04/19	A	Palm Sunday	MKY
08/04/19	B	HOY celebration assemblies (Easter services to be led by MKY during this week)	HOY
15/04/19			
22/04/19	C	Stewardship	KTY
29/04/19	A	Dealing with Stress	SPR
06/05/19	B	Ramadan	MKY
13/05/19	C	Mental Health Awareness Week	KTY
20/05/19	A	HOY celebration assemblies	HOY
27/05/19			
03/06/19	B	Faith	CROSS PROJECT
10/06/19	C	Pentecost	MKY
17/06/19	A	World Refugee Day	KTY
24/06/19	B	Miracles	KTY
01/07/19	C	Thankfulness	MKY
08/07/19	A	HOY celebration assemblies	HOY
15/07/19	B	Keeping safe	RMH

### Types of Collective Worship

To provide students with variety in their experience of worship, acts of worship may take the form of a whole school act of worship for all students or separate acts of worship for students in different age groups or school groups. Collective Worship is typically held during tutor time.

The responsibility for arranging Collective Worship in our school rests with the Academy Chaplain and the Head of RS.

Our acts of Collective Worship enable students to explore:

- The nature of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- The nature of human beings as children of God, part of his creation and, though sinful, destined for eternal life;
- Jesus as the Son of God who, through his life, death and resurrection, broke the power of evil and restored humanity's relationship with God;
- The central values of forgiveness, selfless love, redemption, goodness, compassion and charity;

- The academy values of respect, responsibility, empathy and honesty.
- The central place of the Bible as a source of knowledge about God and Jesus and as a source of inspiration and guidance; the importance of prayer; the central symbols of Christianity; the cycle of the Church year.

Acts of Collective Worship at Cathedral Academy take into account the student's ages, aptitudes and family backgrounds, reflect, and celebrate the Christian faith foundation of the school.

The school recognises that there is a difference between Acts of Collective Worship and the assembly of students.

### **Rights of Withdrawal**

At Cathedral Academy we seek to be an inclusive community however we respect the right of parents to withdraw their children for Collective Worship. This Academy expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Principal and Academy Chaplain, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

The school has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from Acts of Collective Worship, however, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

This right of withdrawal does not extend to assemblies.

On those days when a form group is not in an Act of Collective Worship the form tutors, students within the form group or Academy Chaplain will often develop /discuss the theological thought for the week. In order to facilitate and support this all tutor groups are provided with weekly 'theological thoughts', worship and reflection/discussion topics are also on the whole school screens in order to develop and deepen students' understanding of Christian themes.

The school's Chapel, our designated sacred space, is also available for acts of Collective Worship, should individual form tutors wish to use it; in addition the Chapel is visited by all Year 7 groups in order to gain a greater knowledge and understanding of its place within the school.

The school also utilises Wakefield Cathedral and St George's Church, Lupset, at important times within the Christian calendar, as a venue for collective worship. These services are led by our School Chaplain.

### **Planning, Recording and Evaluation**

Collective Worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing, monitoring and evaluation.

The content and methodology of Collective Worship should be varied and there should be evidence of this in planning; this is carried out, primarily, by the school Chaplain and Head of RS however form tutors and students are expected to engage and support/develop the themes as appropriate.

Each week there is a set theme for Collective Worship. It is expected that the staff member, when leading worship that week, will relate the worship to one of these themes and that form tutors will re-enforce this in reflections in tutor time, supported by the resources prepared for

them. The theme chosen is broad enough to allow all those leading worship to approach the theme from their own perspective.

The collective worship pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that the Chaplain may feel that she needs to respond to local or national events. When this is the case the school may respond in a number of ways including reflection and discussion within individual forms, a collective act of reflection & remembrance and whole school worship.

It is expected that all students in each tutor group have the opportunity to consider and respond to the theme each week. This will allow students to lead their form collective worship.

Collective Worship is discussed and evaluated by the Academy ambassadors and any improvements are made.

### **Resources**

Resources for worship are kept in the '*Collective Worship folder*' and are updated weekly. Extra Support for Collective Worship is also provided, as requested.