

## Collective Worship Policy

As a Faith school, separate and distinct from the state sector, the Trinity school is required by the state to justify its status and funding by demonstrating its special and particular ethos. This state-imposed requirement is hard idealistic, but serves as a minimalist and inadequate base line which we must always strive to exceed in our ideals and policies. R.E and collective worship, therefore, is for us as fundamental as any core subject; this can not be stressed too strongly.

### Daily Worship

Daily worship is almost always class gatherings. Children and staff are encouraged and allowed to participate fully in this daily worship. In the Trinity school, importance is put on creating a suitable atmosphere to make this time special for the children so that they can participate well. During daily worship, teachers may use song, music, candles, flowers, scripture, formal and informal prayers, poetry, books, posters, mime and silence as a stimulus for worship. Children gather into an area, a prayer corner, at some stage during each day. It is a time for sharing joy, sorrow, news, events etc. It is a time for us to come together to worship God, to reflect on personal belief, to encourage Faith and to respond to and celebrate life. As each class teacher knows their children personally, this experience is most meaningful. Children will lead these acts of worship sometimes. Silence is valued for both collective and personal communion with God.

During Collective Worship, there is a balance between formal and informal prayer and a time to allow for spontaneous worship. Attitudes of praise, thanksgiving and contrition are developed. From this act of worship, children and staff get a sense of belonging and fellowship. This form of collective worship is always adapted to the age and development stage of the pupils. Staff are most sensitive to the needs and concerns of the children in their care.

## Assemblies

Assemblies are normally infant and junior based. Assembly takes many forms but an act of Collective Worship is included at some stage. Infants and juniors have an assembly each week, usually on a Friday. Themes are followed looking at the liturgical year and the theme being covered in 'Come and See'. Assemblies are intentional learning experiences, hence the careful planning and delivery.

Assemblies provide an opportunity for sharing ideas and thoughts with a larger group. Through assembly, the Trinity school aims to contribute to our children's religious education. Assemblies also link into PSHE, Health Education, SEAL and citizenship as well as core and foundation subjects, through well chosen themes. During assembly we seek to enrich our pupils experiences and we encourage the community to participate. To ensure breath and depth to the children's experience, a variety of methods are used during assembly including music, drama, story, art and artefacts.

Assemblies are also used on a Friday to celebrate achievements throughout the week. They form a vibrant and vital part of our school life.

## Liturgy

The Trinity school aims to bring children to celebrate relevant events in their own and the Church's life. As many of our children do not attend Church regularly, we have to be sensitive to their needs and the forms liturgy takes must be carefully considered and planned. Educating children in these experiences a gradual process and great care is taken in planning this. Our liturgy is the praise and worship of God; it is the source to help us build up the members of Christ's body, to strengthen us in preaching Christ.

Liturgical celebrations for our infant children are centred on their need to celebrate certain life events or experiences and highlights of the Church's year. Junior children are fully involved in preparing and participating in their own liturgy. Celebrations are aimed to be meaningful, enjoyable and prayerful. Parents are invited to participate.

The liturgies for the Trinity School take place in church and in school itself. Parents, Parish and School aim to work together during Sacramental Preparation.