



St Uny Church of England Academy Collective Worship Policy



Mission Statement:

We believe each child is special, unique and loved by God. We provide a broad, balanced and creative education within a stimulating, inclusive and safe environment, inspired by Christian faith and practice.

Our vision:

We aim to be a positive, loving school where children are equipped to live well with Jesus Christ and with others.

Our guiding Bible verse:

'Let your light shine before others...' Matthew 5:16

Our Christian values guide our relationships in and out of school.

Friendship:

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' 1 Thessalonians 5.11

Forgiveness:

'Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others.' Colossians 3.13

Respect:

'Do unto others as you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7.12

St Uny CE Academy is part of Aspire Academy Trust. There is one Religious Education & Collective Worship leader for the school. The leader works closely with the staff, clergy and visiting professionals to oversee and provide support for the provision of Religious Education & Collective Worship.

Ethos:

This is a Church of England School in the Diocese of Truro. We recognise its historic foundation and will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

'The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all of its pupils...'

An extract taken from 'Christian Values for Church Schools'
Previous Archbishop of Canterbury
The Most Reverend and Rt. Hon. Rowan Williams
The Act of Collective Worship

Aim:

Collective Worship should aim to provide the opportunity for pupils to worship God, to consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs; to encourage participation and response, whether through active involvement in the presentation of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered; and to develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce attitudes.

Organisation:

All members of the school community attend the daily Collective Act of Worship which takes place as follows:

- Collective Worship is distinctly Christian
- Collective Worship takes place every day from 1.10pm – 1.30pm
- The weekly Collective Worship is structured as follows:
 - Monday: Bible & Value Based Worship / Singing Worship.
 - Tuesday: Clergy & Christian Ethos Committee Led Worship.
 - Wednesday: Story-based Worship linked to selected school focus value.

- Thursday: 'Praying for the World' & 'Courageous Advocacy' Reflection Worship.
- Friday: 'Shine' Celebration Worship.
- Half termly themes are mapped out and include opportunities to focus on:
 - Key aspects of the Christian Church year.
 - Special events in the Christian calendar.
 - Issues which arise from the everyday life and ethos of the school.
- At specific times throughout the school year, celebrations of Worship are held in the local Parish Churches. Parents, Hub Councillors & friends share in these services which are held during Harvest, Easter and at Christmas.

Each act of Collective Worship will follow a four-part structure:

- Gathering.
- Engaging.
- Reflecting.
- Sending.

Collective Worship time in school is distinct from other classroom activities, retaining a sense of occasion and togetherness. Where the school community gathers together in a special place to:

- Celebrate.
- Reflect.
- Give honour to God.
- Sing.
- Praise.
- Pray.
- Celebrate.
- Develop an understanding of Christian values and teachings.
- Develop a sense of self-worth and belief in oneself.
- Promote a strong sense of community.
- Share experiences.

Elements of Worship:

The pupils are given the opportunity to consider familiar ideas and explore new ones. They will experience a wide diversity of worship practice, which encourages a variety of responses. For example;

- Hymns and Worship songs.
- Prayer.
- Reflection & contemplation.
- Reading, sermons.
- Symbols.
- Special clothing & artefacts.
- Discussion, speech & silence.
- Procession & ritual action.
- Drama & dance.
- Use of the senses.
- Artistic imagery.

Senses & Feelings:

- Sense of beauty, wonder and awe.
- Feeling of pride.
- Sense of pity.
- Sense of peace or thankfulness.
- Sense of shared sadness or loss.
- Sense of smallness in the face of greatness of things.
- Sense of grandness in the face of the smallest things.
- Sense of stillness in the midst of a busy experience.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from the Daily Act of Collective Worship (Education Act 1988). A parent wishing to do so will need to make a written request to the Head of School.