# EMMAUS

## Catholic and Church of England Academy

# COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

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| Name of school: | **Emmaus Catholic and Church of England** |
| Date of approval of this policy: | 31.1.19 |
| Approved by: | **Governing Body** |
| Date of next review: | Spring 2021 |

# EMMAUS

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# Collective Worship Policy

## The School's Statement of Ethos and Values

*We are a joint denominational school, which means we are part of two church families – the Church of England and the Catholic Church.*

Our belief in Christ is at the heart of our school.
We embrace everyone as a unique individual who is precious to God. We nurture the whole child, celebrating their efforts and achievements whilst encouraging their aspirations and developing their potential.

We work in partnership with our families, our parish churches and our wider community.

We respect and care for one another, practising forgiveness and reconciliation, reflecting Gods love.

Our pupils enjoy learning, reflect oN their thinking, have fun and have a deep sense of pride in their school.

## The Nature of Collective Worship

We consider collective worship to include both prayer and liturgical celebrations, the purpose of which is to open the heart and mind to God.

## Legal Requirements

We expect that all pupils be present at an act of Collective Worship each day
We acknowledge the legal requirements that there must be a daily act of worship for all pupils. (This can take place at any time during the school day and can either be a single act of worship for all pupils, or separate acts of worship in school groups).
We require that designated time should be allocated to Acts of Collective Worship for the whole school, phases of the school and individual classes and that this time should be discrete from time devoted to curriculum and registration.

## The Place of Collective Worship in the Life of our School

We endorse the belief that Collective Worship takes into account the religious and educational needs of all who share in it:

- Those who are part of a worshipping community within Church outside of the school,
- Those for who school may be their first experience of Church,
- Those from Christian traditions other than within the Catholic Church and Church of England – or none.
- Those from other faith backgrounds.

Collective Worship should be an educational activity or experience from which all are able to gain something.

Worship in the school is more than a legal requirement but an integral part of school life and central to the Catholic and Church of England traditions.

Act of Worship will be sufficiently open in style to include all active participants despite their stage of faith development, but will always be rooted in the Catholic and/or Church of England traditions.

## The Aims of Collective Worship

- To contemplate something of the mystery of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- To reflect on spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues;
- To explore their own beliefs and begin to understand the beliefs of others.
- To respond to and celebrate life;
- To experience a sense of belonging and develop community spirit;
- To develop a common ethos and shared values;
- To enrich religious experience;
- To grow in liturgical understanding and development;
- To reinforce the importance of prayers within the Catholic and Church of England traditions.
- To reinforce positive attitudes;
- To be actively involved and participate as fully as possible;
- To take the time to "wonder at", "come to terms with" and "give worth to" many life experiences and feelings.

## Principles

We require that, in promoting links between home and school and parishes all such prayer and worship should be conducted within the Traditions of the Roman Catholic and Church of England Churches and should follow the common liturgical cycle.

## The Planning Content and Delivery of Collective Worship

We see a close relationship but clear distinction between the Acts of Collective Worship and school assemblies concerned with other aspects of school life.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

Because of its whole-school or whole-group nature, we acknowledge that recording achievement/attainment against the aims mentioned above is a difficult task. The school's collective worship policy is continually monitored and evaluated by the leadership team and RE co-ordinator.

## Eucharist

We consider it to be desirable that the Eucharist from both Traditions, should be available to staff and pupils as deemed appropriate by both Bishops and their local clergy.

## Policy Monitoring and Review

This policy is to be reviewed every 2 years.

**Approved**
Spring Term 2019

**Signed on behalf of the Governors** 

**Name** Nick Tolladay