

Libanus Primary School



Collective Worship Policy

A greener place to live, work and visit
Man gwyrddach i fyw, gweithio ac ymweld



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1. Collective Worship Policy Statement

At Libanus Primary School, the daily act of collective worship is considered an integral and important part of school life. It offers pupils the opportunity to develop self-awareness and self-esteem, and to consider with awe, wonder and mystery the world around them. It performs a valuable role in promoting and developing the school ethos, encouraging pupils to aspire to achieve their full potential in accordance with the school motto.

'Roots to grow, wings to fly'

2. Legal Requirements

The Governing Body and Headteacher of Libanus Primary School acknowledge, and seek to abide by, the legal requirements for collective worship in Wales, as set out in The Education Reform Act 1988 and the Welsh Office Circular 10/94.

These legal requirements can be summarised as follows: ¹

- schools must provide collective worship daily for all registered pupils,
- most acts of collective worship in each term should be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character. This means they should reflect the broad traditions of Christian belief without being distinctive of any particular Christian denomination,
- collective worship can take place at any time during the school day,
- collective worship can be provided to pupils in any sized group, for example, as a class, a year group, a phase group or a whole-school community, and,
- collective worship should take account of the family backgrounds, ages and aptitudes of the pupils involved.

There is no legal requirement to provide collective worship for pupils aged under five.

3. Parental Right to Withdraw

Parents have a legal right to withdraw their child/ren from all or part of collective worship. Where parents wish to exercise this right, the Governing Body would first suggest that they meet with the Headteacher to discuss any concerns. If the matter cannot be resolved, parents need to apply to the Governing Body in writing to withdraw their child/ren from collective worship sessions. The Governing Body will make arrangements with the Headteacher for the child/ren to be supervised or engaged in another activity during this time.

4. Equal Opportunities

The Governing Body, Headteacher and staff at Libanus Primary School believe that every child is entitled to access collective worship, regardless of their age, culture, religion, gender, background, their special need or disability. It is their opinion that collective worship sessions develop a balanced view of the multi-cultural society in

¹ *Supplementary guidance: collective worship in non-denominational schools* Estyn – Sept. 2013

which we live, without compromising the faith, non-faith or cultural background of any pupil.

Collective worship planning and provision will take into account any special needs or requirements of pupils, through differentiation of activities and/or through additional support, in accordance with normal school procedures.

5. Organisation of Collective Worship

Collective worship will be organised using the following timetable of assemblies:

Monday	9:30 - 9:45am – Phases 2, 3 and 4 (Headteacher)
Tuesday	9:30 - 9:45am – Phases 2, 3 and 4 (Headteacher)
Wednesday	9:30 - 9:45am – Phase 3 and 4 Worship through song (Mrs Curtis/Mrs Richards/Miss Suter) 9:30 - 9:45am – Phase 2– Cymraeg Assembly in class
Thursday	9:30 - 9:45am – Phase 2 Worship through song (Rota) 9:30 - 9:45am – Phase 3 and 4 – Cymraeg Assembly in class
Friday	9:10 - 9:30am Whole school assembly - Seren Yr Wythnos (Headteacher)

- All assemblies will take place in the school hall or in the classroom
- All teaching staff will be involved in planning and implementing collective worship sessions.
- In addition to the organised timetable, visiting guests are welcomed from time to time to lead collective worship
- Each collective worship session must contain:
 - Candle Lit
 - Song
 - Moment of silence/reflection
 - Story/Discussion
 - Blowing out of candle and blessing
 - Song/Music to exit

6. Record Keeping and Monitoring

The Headteacher will take responsibility for monitoring collective worship provision, and setting/implementing any necessary targets as they arise. The theme for collective worship is written on the weekly 'What's On'.

7. Pupil Involvement

Every pupil, from Nursery to Year 6, will be involved in delivering collective worship in some way during the course of the school year. For example:

- all year groups, including Nursery, practise and perform a Nativity-based concert/play for parents and other pupils to watch during the second half of the Autumn Term,
- all year groups, from Reception to Year 6, plan and perform a year group assembly, based on work they have been doing in class (watched by parents, staff and all pupils),
- pupils with a musical talent (singing or playing instruments) are involved in collective worship sessions, for example through performance in the school band or choir,
- all pupils are involved in St. David's Day and Eisteddfod celebrations,
- during weekly Seren Yr Wythnos assemblies, pupils are recognised and celebrated for their achievements in and out of school,
- School Council representatives (pupils) are asked to put forward ideas and suggestions for collective worship.

In addition to the above, every pupil is encouraged on a daily basis to take time during collective worship to reflect - on their own lives, the lives of others, and the world around them. This reflection can be in the form of a song, a prayer or a moment of quiet thought.

8. Resources

Current resources include:

- books – devotional, stories, bible, prayers and songs etc.,
- music CDs and CD player,
- laptop and interactive whiteboard,
- various musical instruments.