

YSGOL MAES Y MYNYDD



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Approvals	
Approved by Governing Body on	Date: 15/3/2022
Signed by Chair of Governors: <i>K Hughes</i>	
To be reviewed in 3 years	Date: Spring Term 2025

YSGOL MAES Y MYNYDD

POLICY FOR COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

The purpose of this document is to provide a concise statement of the schools aims with regard to Collective Worship. It is a document consistent with National Curriculum requirements and takes account of L.A. and Wales Guidelines.

Introduction

All pupils attending Ysgol Maes Y Mynydd regardless of age, gender, colour, creed, ability shall take part in a daily act of collective worship which brings together the whole ethos of our school, its atmosphere, the quality of relationships, its values and attitudes and reinforces its richness.

Legal Context

All community, foundation and voluntary schools must provide daily Collective Worship for all registered pupils.

Collective Worship in community and foundation schools with no religious character must be wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character, although not distinctive of any particular Christian denomination.

There is a parental right to withdraw a pupil from Collective Worship.

Responsibilities

All registered pupils take part in daily Collective Worship (subject to the right of withdrawal, considered below.). It is the head teacher's duty to secure this. The governing body or, for LEA maintained schools, the governing body and the LEA, must also exercise their functions with a view to securing this.

The arrangements for Collective Worship shall be made:

- If the school is a community school or a foundation school which does not have a religious character, by the head teacher after consulting the governing body.

Organisation

Collective worship, subject to the right of withdrawal, is appropriate for and to include all pupils at the school.

The timing and organisation of daily worship are flexible and are not always held at the start of the school day. We have single acts of worship for all pupils and separate acts for pupils in different age groups and in classes.

As a rule, all acts of Collective Worship take place on school premises. However, acts of Collective Worship may, on a special occasion, take place elsewhere than on the school premises, such as a local chapel or church.

Right of Withdrawal

If the parent of a pupil requests that he/she may be wholly or partly excused from attendance at Collective Worship in the school, the pupil shall be so excused until the request is withdrawn.

The school continues to be responsible for the supervision of any child withdrawn by its parent from Collective Worship.

The parental right to withdraw a child from attending Collective Worship is be freely exercisable and we will give effect to any request. We ask that parents either contact the school in person or in writing. Parents are not obliged to state their reasons for seeking withdrawal.

The Welsh Assembly Guidance suggests that the right of withdrawal from Collective Worship would normally be exercised through the physical withdrawal of the pupil from the place where the act of worship is taking place. Indeed, the school could insist that this is the way the right is to be implemented. If however, both the school and the parent agree that the pupil should be allowed to remain physically present during the Collective Worship but not take part in it, nothing in the law prevents this.

Aims

We aim to bring pupils together to participate in the experiences of the immediate and wider community:

- to discuss the school values;
- to provide for moments of awe and wonder, for truth and for facing the harsher realities of life;
- to allow positive reflection on success and failure in an open, honest and sensitive climate;
- to encourage expressions of determination to do ones best;
- to create an atmosphere in which one has the opportunity for silent reflection, inner response and active participation.

Implementation

It is the responsibility of the whole staff to implement this document. The acts of worship are broadly Christian in character and other world religions are viewed from a Christian perspective. They are designed to allow for the integration, where appropriate, of the Religious Education Syllabus.

Collective Worship takes place on a daily basis. We encourage other Ministers, Preachers, Priests and speakers to involve themselves in our Collective Worship. Details of daily worship are as follows: -

Monday

Whole school worship

Tuesday

Class worship

Wednesday

Key stage worship

Thursday

Class worship

Friday

Whole School Celebration