



St Mary
Magdalene
Academy

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP POLICY

St Mary Magdalene Academy is a Christian community of learning. We aim to nurture young people to become high achievers and to discover their vocation in the global society.

“Show by a good life that your works are done by gentleness born of wisdom”
James 3.13

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP - POLICY STATEMENT

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY

Approval Committee:	Curriculum & Standards Committee
Review Committee:	Curriculum & Standards Committee
Author/responsible person:	Head Teachers (Primary and Secondary)
Last reviewed:	21st April 2016
Next review date:	April 2018 (every 2 years)
Required to publish on website?	No
Statutory?	No

Aims of the policy

- 1.1 Collective worship at the Academy should provide the opportunity for reflection on God's creative and redemptive power enabling an understanding of the awe and wonder of His powers and should nurture the Christian faith within the Academy community. Christian worship should make an important contribution to the spiritual development of all members of the school community *and* the development of the Christian vision, values and ethos of the Academy.
- 1.2 This is achieved through:
 - 1.2.1 a daily act of collective Christian worship in the Academy that is open to all members of the school community;
 - 1.2.2 regular attendance at church services;
 - 1.2.3 distinctively Christian teaching using a range of creative approaches, e.g. music, silence, drama, symbols;
 - 1.2.4 the centrality of prayer and reflection within the life of the school;
 - 1.2.5 the celebration of Christian festivals in the Church's year that reflects Anglican practices and traditions;
 - 1.2.6 positive links with our local Anglican churches: St Mary Magdalene; St David's and St Luke's;
 - 1.2.7 the Bible holding a central place within worship.
- 1.3 The policy should be read in conjunction with:
 - 1.3.1 the Religious Education Policy.

Aims and objectives of collective worship

- 1.4 The aims and objectives of collective worship are:
 - 1.4.1 to provide an opportunity for all members of the school community to engage in Christian collective worship;
 - 1.4.2 to significantly contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all members of the school community;
 - 1.4.3 to develop understanding of the nature and purpose of prayer within an individual's life and in the life of a worshipping community;
 - 1.4.4 to provide opportunities for all members of the school community to engage and respond in a variety of ways to distinctively Christian teaching;

- 1.4.5 to present the school's Christian values through Biblical teaching as exemplified through the life of Jesus Christ;
- 1.4.6 to impact positively upon individual behaviour and conduct through the demonstration of the school's Christian values;

Organisation of collective worship

- 1.5 We hold a daily act of collective worship that forms part of each daily assembly.
- 1.6 We conduct assemblies in a dignified and respectful way. It is a special time and we help to create this sense of specialness through a range of approaches, e.g. music, candles, symbols, silence, and with high expectations of behaviour that is conducive to collective worship; active participation by students and pupils is highly encouraged.
- 1.7 A range of members of our school community regularly lead collective worship, e.g. the Academy Chaplain, Headteachers, teachers, governors, local clergy and special guests.
- 1.8 Worship is planned so that there is a clear focus on Christian beliefs and festivals.
- 1.9 Within Christian worship pupils' and students' achievements are celebrated and these are linked to our Christian values.
- 1.10 Governors' and parents' attendance at assemblies and church services is always welcome.
- 1.11 Church services regularly take place and these follow the Christian calendar.

Right of withdrawal

- 1.12 All students and pupils are expected to attend daily assemblies and church services. The 1988 Education Reform Act gives the right for parents to request permission for their child to be excused from collective worship. Any requests for this withdrawal should be made in writing to the Headteacher.

Monitoring and review

- 1.13 Collective worship is regularly evaluated taking into account the views of the school community.
- 1.14 Monitoring the policy and practice of collective worship is the role of a named Academy Governor, who is also responsible for religious education.
- 1.15 This policy will be reviewed at least every two years.