

Trinity  
Academy  
St Peter's



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**Policy:** Collective Worship Policy

**Date of review:** January 2023

**Date of next review:** January 2025

**Lead professional:** Principal

**Status:** Non-Statutory

Trinity Academy St Peter's is a caring Christian community. We do what is right for each and every student to secure transformational outcomes for all. We ensure that young people in our care flourish and live life to the fullest. We strive to develop individuals of strong moral character who can think for themselves; who have a love of lifelong learning, and who are responsible members of society. We welcome students of all faiths and none, and everything we do is built upon our academy vision for our students to: Believe you can, Strive for Excellence, Stand Proud.

*'Everything is possible for one who believes' (Mark 9:32)*

This is rooted in our four core Trust values of empathy, honesty, respect and responsibility.

## **Philosophy**

It is our belief that collective worship should provide the opportunity for staff and students to explore what it means to have faith in themselves, faith in the world around them and faith in God. Collective worship should enable staff and students to consider spiritual, cultural and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs. Through participation and response and reflection, whether through active involvement in the delivery of worship or through listening to and joining in the worship offered, collective worship should develop a strong community spirit and promote a common ethos. Collective worship should be inclusive, inspirational and invitational, offering everyone the opportunity to engage whilst allowing the freedom for those of other faiths and none to be present with integrity. Collective worship should explore challenging and complex issues whilst ensuring that it is sensitive to the age and stage of our students.

## **Aims**

It is our aim at Trinity Academy St Peter's that worship will:-

- Help staff and students to develop and reflect on their own ideas about the world, about themselves and about the value and worth of other people;
- Create a culture where all members of the academy community are treated with dignity and respect as people created in the image of God;
- Contribute to the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development of staff and students;
- Allow reflection and response to the fundamental questions of life and those things that are of eternal concern and value to human beings;
- Foster and enable a concern for the needs of others, a recognition of the vulnerability of self and of others;
- Explore the teachings of Jesus and the relevance of his teaching in today's world;
- Develop knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith, particularly understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God;
- Develop a deeper understanding of Christian values, in particular the academy values of empathy, honesty, respect and responsibility;

- Introduce staff and students to the variety of worship within the Anglican tradition, particularly through participation in liturgical celebrations;
- Provide the opportunity to experience stillness and quiet;
- Celebrate other faith traditions and provide an opportunity to celebrate shared values;
- Provide a foundation for a mature understanding and practice of worship in the future;
- Seek to develop a sense of community through the celebration of achievements, festivals and special occasions;
- Nurture and encourage appreciation of the natural world and our shared responsibilities for maintaining it;
- Provide contribution to the development of students through opportunities for leadership and performance;
- Take note of events in the wider world, celebrating and giving thanks, expressing joy or sorrow as appropriate;
- Challenge staff and students to consider how their words and actions impact on the lives of others;
- Enable staff and students to be able to live well together, understanding the importance of practising forgiveness and reconciliation;
- Move the community to action as they reflect on how they can 'be the change they wish to see' through working for social justice and encouraging staff and students to consider the needs of others through charitable service, campaigns, and courageous advocacy;
- Develop clear partnerships between worship within the academy and the wider community.

### **Collective Worship**

Collective worship takes place daily, and it is an important part of the academy day. It provides the opportunity to come together as a community to express and celebrate our commonality and encourages staff and students to reflect on how they live their lives. It is attended by all students, staff and any visitors in school are very welcome to join in.

Monday	Whole school worship. Led by the Principal or SLG, the theme for the term, which is linked to the vision, is explored and a Christian value for the week is introduced.
Tuesday	Led by a member of staff themed around the 'Roots and Fruits' resource. Rooting learning from the Bible and the Church year.
Wednesday	Class worship. Students reflect in their classes, following up on the value for the

	week, reflecting and completing work on it.
Thursday	Led by council members, who begin the worship with a prayer or bible verse, the whole school joins together to worship through hymns and prayer.
Friday	Whole school proud worship. This whole school Collective Worship is all about the joy of celebration and it embraces all that we do. Parents are invited and we give awards to children who have done something well, demonstrated a school value, or who the staff are proud of.

Each worship ends with a two-minute reflection which provides the opportunity to pause, be still, recite the academy prayer and reflect.

The academy utilises St Peter's Church at important times within the liturgical Christian calendar as a venue for collective worship for all adults, children and parents. These special liturgical celebrations include local clergy.

Alongside our daily acts of worship and liturgical celebrations, staff and students observe a number of national days of remembrance such as Remembrance Day.

The academy recognises that there is a difference between acts of Collective Worship and the assembly of students.

### **Rights of Withdrawal**

At Trinity Academy St Peter's, we seek to create an environment where worship is invitational and inclusive. However, we respect the right of parents and carers to withdraw their children for collective worship. The academy expects that withdrawal will only be made following parental discussion with the Principal, followed by written confirmation of withdrawal.

The academy has a system of suitable supervision for students withdrawn from acts of collective worship, however, no additional work is set or followed in this time.

This right of withdrawal does not extend to assemblies.

### **Planning, Recording and Evaluation**

Collective worship will be treated like any other part of the curriculum when it comes to matters of planning, delivery, resourcing, monitoring and evaluation.

The content and methodology of collective worship should be varied and there should be evidence of this in planning.

Each week there is a set theme for collective worship. It is expected that the staff and students who are leading worship that week, will relate the worship to this theme and that this will be re-enforced during class worship. Staff are also encouraged to weave the worship themes throughout the curriculum.

The collective worship pattern is flexible and on occasions it is recognised that the Senior Leadership Team may feel that they need to respond to local, national, or global events. When this is the case the academy may respond in a number of ways including reflection and discussion within individual classes or a collective act of reflection and remembrance.