



Collective Worship Policy

Our Vision

Collective worship is at the heart of school life and reflects our Christian vision, values and commitment to nurturing every learner so that they flourish to learn, play, care and pray in Jesus' footsteps.

Worship is regarded as the *unique heartbeat of the school*, fostering belonging, offering space to encounter faith, and supporting the wellbeing and spiritual development of all.

Wick and Marcross C.i.W. Primary is committed to offering high-quality collective worship. Worship is:

- Planned and evaluated
- Inclusive, invitational and inspiring
- Reflective
- Open and accessible to all

Aims of Collective Worship

Collective worship in our school will:

- Contribute to the spiritual development and wellbeing of all
- Develop understanding of the traditions and practices of the Church in Wales
- Provide space for reflection, celebration and hope
- Encourage participation, contribution and response
- Provide opportunities to encounter Christian teaching, Bible stories and liturgy
- Support learners in asking questions, deepening their thinking and making meaning
- Strengthen a sense of cynefin, belonging and community identity
- Promote our Christian values and shared ethos
- Inspire learners and adults towards positive action and thoughtful behaviour

Our Understanding of Collective Worship

Worship in Wick & Marcross C.i.W. Primary School is a shared act of gathering, reflecting and responding, offered in a way that meets learners wherever they may be on their faith journey. It is welcoming, inclusive and respectful of the diverse backgrounds within our community, and is understood as aspirational rather than performative. Within this context, worship provides opportunities for learners and adults to explore big questions of purpose, meaning and belief. Worship is invitational: learners and adults are never compelled to do anything, and may always choose to pray, reflect or simply be present with integrity.

Daily Collective Worship

We meet daily for collective worship. Worship is led by a range of adults including:

- Headteacher and school staff
- Clergy members

- Visitors and church groups
- Pupils
- Structured resources for class-based worship (including iSingPop)

Organisation of Collective Worship

Our worship follows a recognisable structure to support participation and understanding. A typical act of worship includes:

1. **Gathering**
 - Children enter quietly to music
 - We lay the altar table, remembering *The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit (Y Tad, Y Mab, Yr Ysbryd Glân)*. The candle is lit.
 - The person leading worship declares: *“This is the day the Lord has made”*
 - Children and adults respond: *“We shall rejoice and be glad in it.”*
2. **Engaging**
 - Theme focus (values, Bible passage, discussion point, clergy input, iSingPop resource)
 - Opportunities to reflect, question or respond
3. **Reflecting**
 - Silent reflection, prayer, or stillness
4. **Sending**
 - Blessing, music or thought for the day
 - Blowing out the candle, we say *“Y Gras”*

Weekly Rhythm

A typical weekly pattern includes:

- Values worship
- Christian perspectives on....
- Class-based worship with iSingPop resources
- Clergy-led worship
- Friday “We Are Proud” where we gather to celebrate learners’ achievements, both in and out of school, and recognise those demonstrating our Christian values with our “We Are Proud” award.

Worship at Wick & Marcross C.i.W. Primary School is **inclusive**, meaning it is accessible to all ages, backgrounds and stages of belief. It is respectful of those who wish to observe rather than participate and is responsive to learner voice and the cultural backgrounds within our community.

Worship is also **invitational**. There is no compulsion to pray, sing or act, and learners are free to pray in their own way or choose to reflect. Hospitality and welcome are central to this approach, reflecting the “warm fires and open doors” ethos in which everyone is invited to draw near or to sit back with integrity.

Finally, worship is **inspiring**. It encourages big questions and deep thinking, motivates social action, compassion and growth, and connects faith to lived experience and community.

Community Worship

We extend a warm invitation to parents, carers, governors and members of the wider community to join us for worship at key points in the liturgical year. Community worship marking seasons such as Harvest, Advent, Pentecost, Holy Week and Remembrance provide shared opportunities to reflect, celebrate and encounter faith together. These gatherings strengthen our partnership with families and our local church community, deepen learners' understanding of Christian traditions, and affirm that collective worship is a valued and communal aspect of school life.

Right of withdrawal

We expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act.

The headteacher keeps a record of all children who withdraw from collective worship to ensure they are safe.