

EXAMPLE OF POLICY

AIMS

- To give thanks and praise to God
- To deepen pupils' awareness of the Liturgical Year
- To develop the prayer life of the community
- To promote spiritual and moral values in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church

OBJECTIVES

- To encourage the active participation of staff and pupils in worship, encouraging different groups to take responsibility for preparation and delivery
- To relate spiritual and moral values to the daily life of the school
- To celebrate the liturgical life of the Church
- To celebrate cultural diversity in forms of music, dance, drama.

OVERVIEW OF SCHEME /PLAN FOR THE YEAR

This should consist of

- a statement of themes and topics,
- a variety of approaches,
- name of person/ people responsible for each act of collective worship.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Names of Audio Power Points, DVDs, videos, Books, School booklet with resources for a variety of assemblies

EXAMPLE OF POLICY ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

A) There is a daily Act of Worship in every form room at morning registration. This is organised and led by the form tutor. Usually a rota is drawn up so that pupils can prepare the Act of Worship singly or in pairs or groups. Pupils need guidance from the form tutor in their choice of readings, themes and prayers and the atmosphere should always be prayerful. The Chaplain and the head of RE are happy to provide advice and guidance to form tutors at all times. They can also provide copies of suitable prayers for use by the form tutor.

B) There are two School Assemblies for every member of the school community each week:

Main Assembly (currently Mondays 1.35-2.05 p.m.)

Key Stage Assembly (either Wednesday or Friday 1.35-2.05 p.m.)

Aim of Assembly:

1. To encourage and promote the relationship of each one of us with Jesus Christ,
2. Our Lord and Saviour.
3. To promote Christian ethics through a particular focus upon key elements of Catholic teaching and to deepen our understanding of it.
4. To provide experience of collective acts of Christian worship with particular emphasis on prayer, reflection and worship in recognition of all that we do together.
5. To promote a sense of belonging to a thriving and active Christian community.
6. To encourage a sense of shared ownership and responsibility for the quality of our community's collective worship. This means involving as many different members of the school community as possible.
7. To encourage the school community to look outwards to recognise a diverse range of Christian experiences in many walks of life both within different denominations and within different ethnic cultures and to learn to value such [in a multi-ethnic society].
8. To share our concerns about major issues of the day and place them in a Christian perspective.

9. To provide opportunities for everyone to enjoy worship, but to recognise that is not spectator entertainment, but participative community activity which requires spiritual involvement.
10. To celebrate the achievements of individual member of the school community.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSEMBLY POLICY

To achieve the above:

1. There is an expectation that assemblies are not just another 'senior management job'.
2. Every member of staff and pupils is encouraged to make a contribution. Staff are asked to volunteer to lead one main assembly per year. Pupils are asked to volunteer to lead a main assembly also.
3. Requires each class to organise at least one Key Stage assembly per year in which they are facilitated by their form tutor. Tutorial time is set aside for preparation and evaluation.
4. We show respect for God and one another in the manner in which we behave and respond during assembly times.
5. We allow a diverse range of worship style including prayers, singing, dancing, instrumental playing, drama, personal reflection and listening.
6. We invite outside speakers to share their experience of different times and places.
7. We emphasise the difference between the liturgical part of school assemblies (10-15 minutes) and the administrative element (5-10 minutes).