



TEAM Multi Academy Trust

Collective Worship Policy

This Policy was adopted by the
TEAM Multi Academy Trust
Trustees on

Date: 10th December 2019

Signed (on behalf of the Board of Trustees)

Signed (Headteacher)

Reviewed: 30th November 2022, 5th December 2023, 6th October 2025

Review Date: Autumn 2027

'Life, Love and Learning to the Full'

Rationale:

At TEAM Multi Academy Trust, we recognise that every child is unique and strive to give them opportunity to develop academically and socially whilst encouraging them to explore their spiritual and emotional being. Collective worship offers all aspects of human development.

Purpose:

To encourage a reflective approach to living, and to contribute to the development of their own beliefs and values through:

- a) reflecting on those aspects of human experience which give rise to fundamental questions about life.
- b) developing a sensitivity to spiritual/religious interpretations of human experience.
- c) encouraging a development and means of expressing their spirituality through collective worship, and being able to reflect on spiritual and moral issues.

Collective worship:

- gives both body and spirit time to breathe, offering space and stillness before, during or at the end of a busy day to be oneself, to reflect or just to sit and rest;
- helps to foster a spirit of community in a school, year group or class;
- can enable the joys and sorrows of those present to be reflected upon and shared in a way which may otherwise not be possible in a school;
- is an opportunity to share and reinforce the values the school seeks to live by;
- enables the overall personality and ethos of the school to come across to everyone;
- can help children ponder on the many ultimate questions life presents, and know that others of all ages ponder these too;
- can offer insights into religious and other beliefs and commitments in an open way;
- can be a time of sharing those things that unite, whilst acknowledging or celebrating the diversity of beliefs and values within and beyond school;
- is one of the few occasions in a week that offers space for the spirit.

There is no National Curriculum for Collective Worship.

Management:

Our worship is of a broadly Christian nature. In addition, stories from a range of cultures/religions are used to support some of the themes we cover.

Collective worship provides opportunities to invite members of the wider community into our schools and to celebrate special occasions, allowing time to think, reflect upon and reaffirm our values. It provides opportunities for the exploration of a wide range of social, environmental and interpersonal issues.

Children and staff are involved in developing the ethos of the school and our assemblies seek to promote positive attitudes and values e.g. respect for others and for our environment; acceptable behaviour within society's rules.

Our collective worship takes place during various assemblies during the week including; whole school assemblies, class assemblies, Open the Book assemblies and celebration assemblies. All children – except Early Years – are expected to be present.

We aim to provide opportunities for children and adults to:

- celebrate all that is good and beautiful and express thankfulness for the joy of being alive.
- have experiences which are relevant to the age, aptitude and family background of the children.
- have time for silent reflection and exploration of inner peace.
- develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally through experiences including singing, music, dance, story and multi-sensory involvement.

Inclusion and equal opportunities:

We always invite, never coerce, remembering that children and adults will be at different stages of spiritual development and that they should feel able to respond and participate at their own level.

Collective worship is held for all children regardless of their background or religion. Every effort is made by the school to involve all children unless withdrawn by their parents; it is a parental right to withdraw their children. All acts of collective worship are introduced as invitational by all adults leading collective worship.

We recognise that the Church Schools within TEAM Academy Trust have a distinctive Christian character and are required by Exeter Diocese to offer opportunities to worship God. Relationships between these schools and their local churches are particularly important and are highly valued.

More detail regarding the Christian distinctiveness of Pilton Bluecoat, High Bickington and Witheridge Academies can be found on their individual websites.