



# Collective Worship Policy

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**St. Francis' College**

October 2024

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## **Introduction**

The 'College' refers to all the staff and pupils of the Prep Department and Senior School which includes Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Pre-Prep (Key Stage 1), Prep (Key Stage 2), and Senior School (Key Stages 3-5).

## **Definition of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is a time when the whole College, or groups within the College meet together in order to consider and reflect on common concerns, issues and interests. It offers all pupils an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

## **Aims of Collective Worship**

### **For the College:**

Collective Worship contributes to the ethos of St. Francis' College and it is our aim that it is a time when the school community can:

- share common aims and values
- celebrate achievement and special times
- explore together the world in which we live
- develop a community spirit

### **For the Pupils:**

We also intend that Collective Worship contributes to the development of the pupil as a 'whole' person by providing opportunities to:

- consider spiritual and moral issues
- explore their own beliefs
- develop their own spirituality
- reinforce positive attitudes
- participate and respond
- reflect on our College values which make up DREAMS (Determination, Resilience, Empowerment, Appreciation, Motivation and Security)

## **The Contribution of Collective Worship to aspects of the Curriculum**

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time. However, St. Francis' College's Collective Worship will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of pupils by reflecting on the work done in lessons. At times, Collective Worship will enrich class work through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with school policy which informs our practice. To ensure Collective Worship provides opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, it should address a wide variety of themes and topics, use diverse stimuli and resources and provide pupils with the opportunity to 'respond' at their own level.

### **The Organisation of Collective Worship**

Collective Worship is organised to accommodate a variety of groupings and will usually take place in the College Chapel or Theatre.

Acts of worship will usually last for approximately 15 minutes, although it is recognised that this time will be shortened or lengthened when it is appropriate.

### **Leadership**

Any member of the College staff and occasional visitors may be involved in leading acts of worship at some point in the school year.

### **Planning Acts of Collective Worship**

The content of all acts of Collective Worship will be considered carefully, to ensure relevance and suitability for the ages, aptitudes and backgrounds of all pupils.

The year will be planned to address key dates and anniversaries: for example, Black History Month and Internet Safety Week. A Personal Development theme, eg. Being Me in My World, is assigned each half term. Some assemblies will relate to this theme, however there is flexibility to include current and topical issues.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at St. Francis' College. Leaders from faiths within the local area will increase the pupils' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the pupils who belong to these faiths.

### **Withdrawal**

No pupils will be withdrawn from Chapel without the permission of the Head. All pupils are expected to attend assemblies and Chapel services.

### **Version Control**

Reviewed By	Assistant Head Pastoral
Authorised By	Head
Effective From	October 2024
Next Review Due	October 2025