



Inspiring Optimistic Learners

## Collective Worship Policy

### Linked Policies/Protocols

- Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultures (SMSC) Policy
- Promotion of Values at TCC

<b>Approved/Reviewed:</b> January 2020	<b>Next review due:</b> January 2023
<b>Governing Body Committee:</b> N/A	<b>CLT contact:</b> Jeremy Plumb
<b>Policy adopted by the Governing Body on:</b> N/A	

## **Torpoint Community College Collective Worship Policy**

The Collective Worship Policy at Torpoint Community College pays due regard to the statutory requirements, and has taken account of the guidance offered by Cornwall County Council through its SACRE. This means that we both comply with the law as well as positively contributing to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural life of the College and development of its students.

**“Cornwall SACRE advises that schools reflect seriously on what they want their pupils to get out of the experience of collective worship and to understand this as a unique opportunity within the school's day to promote spiritual development.” (27.7.12)**

**A new RE syllabus for Cornwall is planned this year, a statutory requirement, the SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for RE) is developing a new syllabus for KS1—3. A full day's training will support its launch in March 2020.**

The Collective Worship Policy at Torpoint Community College is reflective of the philosophy and aims of the College as expressed in the College prospectus including learning about healthy lifestyles, health & well-being and the beauty of the natural environment. All collective acts are guided by the aim of “Inspiring Optimistic Learners”. Today this is a world of much variety. As a result collective worship despite not being part of the curriculum nevertheless has a contribution to make in forming the young people of today and the adults of tomorrow.

### **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 students an opportunity to worship through engaging in relevant, meaningful experiences and provides opportunities for the students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

### **Aims of Collective Worship**

For the College:

Collective Worship contributes significantly to the ethos at Torpoint Community College and it is our aim that it is a time when the College community can participate together as a united community and respond/reflect together.

Where:

- We share our common ethos is promoted to all, including students, staff and the wider community.

- We celebrate the huge variety of academic/personal achievements at the College.
- We share and mark the special times both of a religious and non-religious nature.
- We fully explore the world in which we all live to extend the depth of our community.
- We share values, including those identified as fundamental British Values

For the Students:

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

- worship that which is considered worthy;
- consider spiritual and moral issues;
- explore their own beliefs;
- develop their own spirituality;
- reinforce positive attitudes;
- participate and respond;
- reflect on what it means to be human.

At Torpoint Community College in order for collective worship to have an impact on students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development it is planned and evaluated regularly to ensure it is creative, relevant and engaging.

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

Collective Worship time is distinct from curriculum time at Torpoint Community College.

Collective Worship however will at times feature aspects of the curriculum, which will enhance the experiences of students by reflecting on the learning covered in classes.

At times, Collective Worship will enrich classwork through its consideration of subject matter from different perspectives.

The provision of opportunities for students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is in line with College 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 students with the opportunity to 'respond' on their own level.

We use and respect the environment: local and global to promote spiritual, moral, social, and cultural learning and development. We celebrate the natural environment across all aspects of our learning and this underpins our approaches to health and well-being. The following developments are:

Students' spiritual development at Torpoint Community College is shown by their:

- Beliefs, which inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's feelings and values.
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible.
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning.
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences.

Students' moral development is shown by their:

- ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and their readiness to apply this understanding in their own lives;
- understanding of the consequences of their own personal actions and behaviour;
- interest in investigating, and offering reasoned views about, moral and ethical issues.

Students' social development is shown by their:

- use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including socialising with different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds;
- willingness to participate in a variety of social settings, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively;
- interest in, and understanding of, the way communities and societies function at a variety of levels.

Students' cultural development is shown by their:

- understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own unique heritage;
- willingness to participate in artistic, musical, sporting, mathematical, technological, scientific and cultural opportunities Interest in exploring and respect for cultural diversity.

Collective worship provides the College with innumerable opportunities for SMSC development within our students.

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

Collective Worship is organised to provide a variety of groupings, often houses incorporating a range of ages, and regularly takes place in the College hall, or one of the multi-purpose rooms, occasionally on a smaller scale in the classroom. Acts of worship will usually form part of assembly time: assemblies last approximately 25 minutes.

### **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 students. Themes, special occasions and events are included alongside the inclusion of current and topical issues and a reference to Christianity when appropriate.

Visitors will be welcome to lead Collective Worship from time to time and will be given guidance on acts of Collective Worship at Torpoint Community College. Leaders from Faiths within the area will increase the students' awareness, promote respect and raise the esteem of the students who belong to these Faiths. The focus of visitors is often Christian in nature.

### **The Act of Collective Worship**

A variety of teaching and learning styles and active /interactive methods are appropriate in acts of Collective Worship at Torpoint Community College. Any and all of the methods employed in the classroom can be used effectively in acts of Collective Worship. A variety of resources will also be used. Leaders will choose the style/method and resources which are appropriate to the content, the age, aptitude and the background of the students.

The content and process must be sufficiently stimulating in order to evoke a response in the individual. This may not be visual, but opportunity must be given to express this response through reflection and silence.

### **Withdrawal**

Any parent/carer who objects to their child attending an act or acts of Collective Worship may request that their child is withdrawn. Parents/carers are encouraged to discuss this with the Headteacher. Any student who is withdrawn from an act or acts of Collective Worship will be supervised during that time by a member of the College staff.

Parents or carers of any child at the College have the legal right to withdraw their child from Collective Worship but there must be acceptable grounds and consultation with the Headteacher.