

# **Cantonian High School Ysgol Uwchradd Cantonian**



## **Collective Worship Policy**

June 2009

This policy was adopted by Governors  
on.....

Every day begins with an act of collective worship or class reflection themed for the week. This provides an opportunity for pupils to reflect in depth on spiritual and moral issues.

## SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

The Education Reform Act refers to a dimension of human experience which is termed the 'spiritual' and which applies to all pupils. There are many aspects of spiritual development and these are characterised by the following aspects:

- (a) **Beliefs:** The development of personal beliefs, including religious beliefs and appreciation that people have individual and shared beliefs on which they based their lives, a developing understanding of how beliefs contribute to personal identity.
- (b) **A sense of awe, wonder and mystery:** Being inspired by the natural world, and the mystery of human achievement.
- (c) **Experiencing feelings of transcendence:** Feelings which may give rise to belief in the existence of a divine being, or the belief that one's inner resources provide the ability to rise above everyday experiences.
- (d) **Searching for meaning and purpose:** Asking "Why me?" at times of hardship or suffering; reflecting on the origins and purpose of life, responding to challenges of life as beauty, suffering and death.
- (e) **Self Knowledge:** An awareness of oneself in terms of thoughts, feelings, emotions, responsibilities and experiences; a growing understanding and acceptance of individual identity, the development of self-respect.
- (f) **Creativity:** Expressing innermost thoughts and feelings through art, music, literature and crafts; exercising the imagination, inspiration, intuition and insight.
- (g) **Feelings and Emotions:** The sense of being moved by beauty and kindness; hurt by injustice or aggression. A growing awareness of when it is important to control emotions and feelings and how to learn to use such feelings as a source of growth.

This allows the development of the following aims:

- To enable pupils to understand the nature of religion and worship, whether or not they hold specific beliefs themselves.
- To broaden and deepen the commitment of those pupils who have a religious conviction, whatever form it may take.
- To enable pupils with no religious conviction to understand the nature and demands of religious beliefs.
- To encourage in pupils feelings of awe and wonder, elation, respect, gratitude, reverence and appreciation as a prelude to the development of a feeling of spirituality, religious or otherwise.
- To encourage reflection in pupils, by means of silence, contemplation, meditation and, where appropriate, prayer.
- To raise the consciousness of pupils with regard to the local and wider community, the value of life and life values.
- To celebrate the achievements of others, both within the school and in the wider community.
- To celebrate differences between individuals and between nations.

## DELIVERY OF COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

- A structured timetable and booklet (produced very half term), for SMT, Transition Leaders and Learning Leaders to deliver assembly on a rots basis for the Hall and Neuadd Davies.

- Weekly bulletin provides theme for Form Tutors to base the class reflection time.
- Evaluation of all this provision will be monitored by SMT and other Leading Staff during the academic year.