

Collective Worship Report
Inkberrow First School

When I was asked to prepare a report on “Collective Worship” at Inkberrow First School, I thought that the request was entirely to do with the Wednesday morning assembly which St. Peter’s provides the school. In fact, “Collective Worship” covers the entire programme of assemblies at school.

IFS follow the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programme for schools and these topics are also passed on to the church for them to take into account when preparing for the Wednesday morning collective worship assembly. I would therefore prefer to refer to this time when the entire school comes together as *School Assembly* as there is essentially no worship happening, this only happens on a Wednesday morning.

Assemblies are not always at the same time of day, Wednesday is at 9am, the other day assemblies are later in the morning/day. Unfortunately, since receiving the request to write this report the school has been very busy with the school production, which is also done during the period allocated for assemblies. I did attend one of these rehearsals.

Having reviewed the assembly dates schedule I find that what happens at IFS is quite varied and that it covers quite a wide range of activities. Even when the assembly is taken up by production rehearsal I am happy that the “social and emotional aspects of learning” are also covered. For example, the children were asked what happens when you sing, how do you feel and the children gave very thoughtful responses. They are obviously learning and I was quite pleased with what I was hearing.

Regarding Wednesday mornings, the Collective Worship has a definite Christian bias, as St. Peter’s is providing it, it should not be surprising that it would. The schedule of other assemblies reveals that other religions and their festivals are also being covered which is in line with guidelines.

This report should therefore be seen as an initial report. I will endeavour to attend more assemblies, not only when one religion or another’s festivals are discussed but also other assemblies to get a better feel of the programme we are offering. My initial impression though is a very positive one.

The Rev’d Bruce Rienstra
6th February 2018

