

Making Worship Meaningful and Special *a starting point for improving worship in school*

Plan for some of these all of the time and all of these some of the time

1. Plan appropriate themes in advance and link them to the wider school curriculum.
2. Create an atmosphere of calm and peace through the use of music to enter/leave by.
3. Sing hymns linked to the theme which the pupils enjoy; occasionally include hymns which are also sung in the local church.
4. Use visual aids or drama to explain the theme.
5. Hold the pupils' interest through a short, relevant story, poem or Biblical material.
6. Involve the pupils as much as possible.
7. Use sung or said prayers, sometimes written by pupils, along with traditional prayers learnt by heart e.g. the Lord's prayer
8. Create opportunities for silent reflection.
9. Promote an ordered but relaxed atmosphere where all pupils feel comfortable to contribute.
10. Welcome a range of visitors who have been given a clear brief concerning the act of worship.
11. Develop a sense of 'place' in the worship area by making a spiritual focal point.
12. Foster a sense of community and emphasise the value of worship by encouraging all staff to be present.
13. Make a clear distinction between 'assembly' and 'worship'.