

ST. BONIFACE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Worship Policy

Rationale

St. Boniface's College exists as an expression of the mission and ministry of the Roman Catholic Church. We strive to put Christ at the centre of all that we do, in the hope that the members of our community will encounter the Risen Christ. Therefore collective acts of worship, and living gospel values, lie at the heart of our community life.

The College also serves a significant number of young people from other Christian denominations and some other faiths, and this will be respected appropriately.

Aims and Objectives

- To grow in awareness that the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's life. It is the 'sacrament of sacraments' and must therefore be the College's pre-eminent act of communal liturgy and prayer. 'Those who form part of our Catholic school community rightly celebrate Mass together'¹.
- To enable each individual, whether student or staff, to become increasingly aware of their unique creation, spiritual journey and God's unconditional love for them.
- To develop an understanding that prayer is an enlivening participation in something that Christ does within us, both as individuals and as a community.
- To recognise that all life lived according to Gospel values is an act of worship.
- To provide experiences that will allow for positive reflection in an open, sensitive and prayerful climate.
- To provide a sacred place with an atmosphere conducive to a variety of prayer and worship.
- To encourage all members of the community to take a 'full, active and conscious participation'² in the acts of worship.

Organisation and Delivery

The organisation and delivery of this policy will be by means of an 'Annual College Worship Plan', produced by the Head teacher and reported on to the Governing Body at their termly meetings. That plan will always make provision for Holy Days of Obligation which fall on a school day.

The first of these will be presented to the Governing Body at the 24th April 2009 Meeting and subsequently at the last Governing Body Meeting of each academic year. In order that it can be debated and put in place for the start of each academic year.

1. 'Fit for Mission? Schools'; Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue
2. 'Sacrosanctum Concilium'; Vatican Council II, 1964