

## Swindon SACRE Guidance on Collective Worship 2018

### *Time to Breathe*

#### **Quick Summary**

1. Collective worship is good for the life-blood of the school
2. It provides a platform for the communication of the shared values and expectations of the school or academy.
3. It is the coming together and the knitting of the community
4. It offers a rhythm and a set-aside space, time and place for spirituality and stillness
5. It offers stories of inspiration and hope and a time to share when times are sad or hard.

#### **There is a legal requirement for Collective Worship**

- A. All schools and academies have a legal duty to provide a daily act of Collective worship
- B. This can take part at anytime of the school day and in any grouping
- C. Acts of worship should be ‘wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character’.
- D. Where worship which is wholly or mainly of a broadly Christian character is inappropriate, the Headteacher and governors may apply to the local SACRE for a “determination”:to arrange assemblies/ worship this is not wholly mainly of a broadly Christian character.
- E. Parents (and pupils over the age of 16) have the right to withdraw from Collective Worship (see further guidance)

*Swindon SACRE has an expectation that each maintained school or academy within the unitary authority will have developed their own Collective Worship Policy which can be found on the school’s website.*