

# North Yorkshire SACRE Collective Worship Guidance 2015

## Appendix 3: Collective Worship Themes

When planning school worship headteachers should consider developing a planned programme focussing on different themes. This gives opportunities for teachers to plan well ahead and provides a coherent framework for the year. By setting themes in advance genuine links can be made with religious festivals, school events, national and international occasions, social, moral, spiritual and cultural development and the whole curriculum. Knowing themes in advance gives staff and pupils alike the opportunity to participate more fully in both planning and presentation.

The following list, originally published in 'School Worship Perspectives, Principles and Practice' by Bill Gent, can be used when undertaking planning over a year or a term.

Achievement and talent  
Age  
Aggression and Hate  
The Arts  
Autumn and Harvest

Barriers  
Beginnings  
Blindness and Sight  
Bridges

Care and caring  
A celebration of talent  
Change and decay  
Choice and Decision  
Christmas stories  
Courage

Good and Evil  
Guilt and Suffering

Harvest and Thankfulness  
Health  
Heroes and Heroines  
Humour

I believe...  
In the news

Jesus  
Journeys  
Joy and sorrow

Key People

Day and Night	Leaders and Leadership
Desert Island Disc	Lenten thoughts
Discovery	Life and Death
Dreams	Light and darkness
	Love and Hate
The Easter Experience	The Message
Education and learning	Mysteries and Puzzles
Exploring the Future	
Exploring the Past	The Natural World
	A New School Year
Fashion and Trends	New Year's Resolutions
Finding Your Way	
Food for Thought	One World
Forgiveness	Old and New
Freedom and Responsibility	Opportunities
The Global Village	Parents and Children
God and Gods	Prayer and Meditation
Proverbs and Sayings	War and peace
Peace and tranquillity	Ways of Seeing
A Person who has influenced me	Wealth and Riches
Pride and Prejudice	What's it worth?
	Why are we here?
Rebirth	Wonder and Awe
Red Letter Days	The Word
Rewards and Punishments	Winter and Spring
Risk	Work and Play
Roots	The World About Us
	The Writing on the Wall
School and Community	
School and Tradition	Youth and Old Age
School Life	
The Sciences	
Seeing the Light	
Special Books	
Stepping Stones and Stumbling Blocks	
Strengths and Weaknesses	
Success and Failure	
Summing Up	
Taking Risks	
Time and Tide	
Turning Points	
The Unexpected	
Us and Them	
Victory and defeat	
Voices	
Voices from the past	

## Examples of Themes for a School Year (Secondary)

### Autumn Term

Start as you mean to go on  
Succeeding against the Odds  
Seize the Day  
Grandparents' Day  
Heroes  
Being Organised  
World Food Day  
Diwali  
Sharing  
Remembrance  
Positive Thinking  
Eid Ul Fitr  
World Aids Day  
Human Rights  
Christmas

Ambition  
Making Mistakes  
International Women's Day  
St Patrick's Day  
Fighting Racism  
Easter

### Summer Term

The Importance of Community  
Communication  
Living in a Democracy  
Caring for Others  
Keeping Focused

### Spring Term

New Year's Resolutions  
Don't judge by appearances  
Martin Luther King Day  
Holocaust Memorial Day  
Being Nervous  
Friendship and Love

World Environment Day  
Teamwork  
Money  
Independence  
Dreams, Visions and Premonitions  
Achievement

### Useful websites for collective worship

<http://www.assemblies.org.uk> - a great source of ideas for themes and activities for primary and secondary assemblies.

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20070108153428/teacher.net.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/assemblies/>

- you can search for assemblies by theme, school type or year group.

<http://www.barnabasinschools.org>

[uk](#) - themed assemblies with Christian content.

<http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/more/assemblies/contents.htm> - suggestions from teachers on how to deliver creative and imaginative assemblies.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/collectiveworship> - homepage of the collective worship resources from BBC radio.

