

Collective (Video) Worship



Supporting Local RE with Local Experts

How do you engage students in the values of religious and non-religious worldviews?

Adrian Black – Chair of Shropshire SACRE and Head of Religious and Social Studies at William Brookes School
(Much Wenlock)

All photos are from pixabay.com

What is the context of Collective Worship?



- It's the law
- Right to withdrawal
- Must be mainly of a Christian character (51%!)
- Can happen as part of assemblies, but it needs to be 'separate'
- "consider spiritual and moral issues and to explore their own beliefs"
- "develop community spirit, promote a common ethos and shared values, and reinforce positive attitudes."
 - 'Religious Education and Collective Worship' – Circular 1/94

Why create videos?



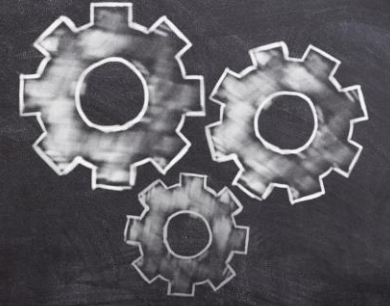
- Videos are an adaptable resources for teachers and schools to use
- They can be accessed in multiple places simultaneously (schools, classrooms etc.)
- They allow members of religious and non-religious groups to have their face seen and their voice heard!
- Some students may not have met (or not realised they've met) a diverse range of beliefs
- Some schools may not have the expertise, or may feel unconfident on some worldviews
- School budgets are tight, and quality local resources can be very powerful
- It can be used again in the future!

How do I get started?



- Are members willing to be on camera?
- Will members give consent for these videos to be used/distributed?
- Who will do the filming and editing?
- Do we need to find funding? E.g. Westhill
- Where will the videos be put? How will they be distributed?

What was Shropshire SACRE's process?



- Discussed at SACRE meetings with former adviser
- A proposal was written to Westhill
- Contact with a local college who have a media/photography department
- A cost was arranged to pay for the time and expertise of the college, but also allow for students to be involved in the project

What difficulties did we face?

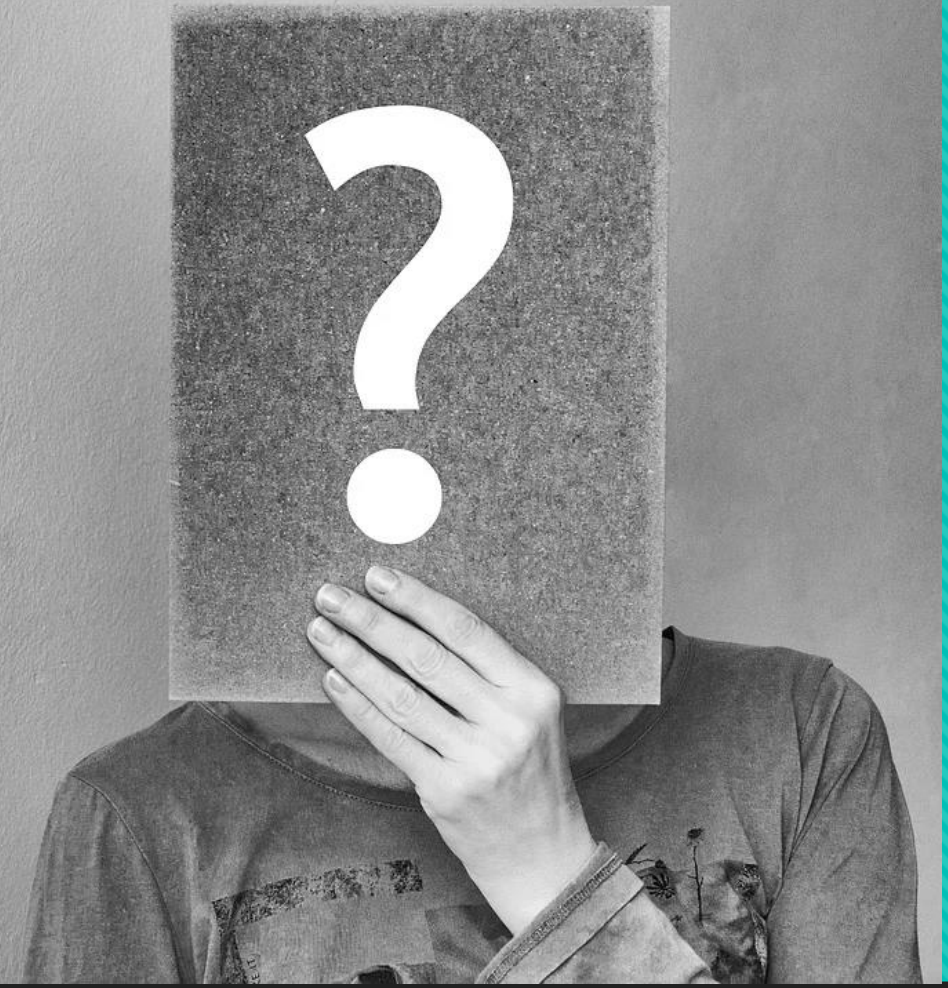


- The adviser was not confident with technology; have someone involved who understands the videos/editing and what kinds of technology schools are using
- The videos will be distributed via memory sticks; this is not ideal as they can get lost. Online platforms are more accessible, more widely used and more likely to be utilised
- Videos were 'signed off' because they looked impressive, but were actually requiring some re-editing; get members to watch ALL of the videos from start to finish, particularly those who were on camera. Get all editing checked and only then sign them off

In 2021...



- A number of people now have webcams and microphones at home
- Many people have phones which can record in excellent quality
- Purchasing a cheap phone stand/holder can make filming at home, in a place of worship or significant local building look quite professional!
- Whilst video quality can be good, beware of poor audio
- Many secondary schools will be able to do the filming for you, possibly even for free (if you ask very nicely!)



Any questions?