**Difference and Unity and the Holy Trinity –**

**Collective Worship Guidance Notes**

**Gathering**

**Slide 1**

Worship begins with music as the children are entering: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GMvAQXjQCDs> The clip is embedded in the PowerPoint or you could open it in a separate window. This song is about seeking unity in diversity.

**Slide 2**

Following the school’s usual gathering routine. You may wish to use this Trinitarian candle lighting prayer, which works effectively if you have three candles or, better still, a large candle with three wicks.

**Engaging**

**Slide 3**

Explain to the children that in today’s worship we are going to explore the idea of difference and unity. Ask children about all of the ways in which people can be different from each other (perhaps make a list on a flip chart).

**Slide 4**

Discuss how we can respect and celebrate our differences while at the same time being united in order to achieve things together.

**Slides 5-11**

Tell the children that this is exactly how the first Christians came to understand God. Tell the story of how the first Christians came to understand God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit – like three different people working in unity. The words are on the slides. At slide 11, ask the children what they think the three symbols in the image stand for (Crown = Father, Lamb = Son, Dove = Holy Spirit)

**Responding**

**Slide 12**

The first Christians realised that difference and unity came from God and when they worked together in unity, while celebrating their differences, they could carry out God’s plan. Discuss times when we can celebrate our differences while working together in unity.

**Sending**

**Slide 16**

Ask the children to take a moment to reflect on the image and consider how they can show unity in their own lives. Ask them to decide on one thing that they could do in the week ahead to play their part in unity with others.

**Slide 17**

Invite the children to say the blessing prayer.

Play the piece of music from the beginning of worship again as children leave.