



Compassion - assembly for primary schools

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/z42mrnm>

1. As the pupils enter: Play your chosen music – perhaps from [this collection of songs to support assemblies and Collective Worship](#), each with lyrics on screen and backing tracks.

2. Introduction. Question to engage pupils: What does it mean to care about someone else? Can you think of a time when someone was kind to you, or when you showed kindness to someone else?

Set the tone: Explain that today's assembly will focus on compassion—why it matters, how it helps others, and how it makes us better friends, classmates, and family members.

Link to the National Curriculum. Explain that today's theme connects to:

- PSHE: Building positive relationships through kindness and empathy.
- English: Developing reflective speaking and writing skills.
- Art: Exploring values like compassion through creative expression.
- RE: Understanding compassion as a shared value in different cultures and faiths.

3. The video: Encourage pupils to watch carefully, noting:

- How the characters demonstrate compassion and care for others.
- The positive impact of their actions.
- The challenges they face in showing kindness.
- What pupils take away from hearing the real-life stories of developing compassion.

Pause the video at 00:56 and ask pupils to consider a time they have shown compassion to someone else or when someone has shown them compassion. Resume the video and pause at 02:14 to discuss Isaac's story:

- What acts of compassion did you notice in the film?
- How did Isaac show compassion?
- How did these acts help Amrit to feel better or more included?
- Why do you think showing compassion is important in our school and community?

Resume the video until the end and discuss Conor's story:

- How does his work support other young people and what difference do you think it makes?
- Why does Conor think compassion is important?
- How can we show compassion to others, even when it's not always easy?
- Why does Conor think listening is important when showing compassion?

This is an opportunity to introduce someone from your own school community who has a story that demonstrates the value of compassion.

4. After the video – time to talk

- What acts of compassion did you notice in the film?
- How did Isaac show compassion?
- How did these acts help Amrit to feel better or more included?
- Why do you think showing compassion is important in our school and community?
- Why does Conor think compassion is important?
- How can we show compassion to others, even when it's not always easy?
- Why does Conor think listening is important when showing compassion?

Interactive activity: Use a 'think, pair, share' format: Pupils discuss their thoughts with a partner before sharing them with the assembly.

5. Opportunity for reflection and/or prayer

Ask each pupil to set a "Compassion Goal" for the week, such as:

- Helping a friend who seems upset.
- Being patient and kind during group work.
- Saying thank you to someone who helps them.

End the session with a positive phrase that emphasises the value of compassion, such as:

"Compassion is a gift we can give every day. When we care for others, we help make our school and the world a kinder, better place."