

The Open Academy

Collective Worship Schedule 2026–2027

SIAMS-compliant · School Values: Aspiration, Perseverance, Respect · Vision: Courage in Every Step, Faith in Every Journey

SLT Presenters: Dan Bagshaw | Kate Wenlock | Scott Richardson | Ian Fisher | Adam Bradshaw

SLT-Led Collective Worship (blue rows)	Heads of Year (green rows)	School Holiday / Break
Value: Aspiration	Value: Perseverance	Value: Respect

AUTUMN TERM 2026					
Date (W/C)	Collective Worship Theme	Focus	School Value	Christian Ethos Element	Presenter
7 Sep	Courage in Every Step: A New Beginning	Start of the new academic year – setting aspirations, establishing our vision and committing to the journey ahead	Aspiration	Matthew 14:27 – "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." The same call Jesus gave Peter on the water is our school's invitation to step out with faith at the start of a new year.	Dan Bagshaw
14 Sep	Finding Your Place in Our Family	Belonging and community – what it means to be part of the Open Academy family and to value everyone's presence	Respect	Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 – "Two are better than one... if either falls, one can help the other up." We are stronger together.	Heads of Year
21 Sep	Harvest: Seeds of Generosity	Harvest Festival – gratitude for what we have, and the call to share generously with those in need in our local community	Respect	John 12:24 – "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." Giving births abundance.	Adam Bradshaw
28 Sep	Thankful in All Seasons	Contentment and gratitude – finding reasons to be thankful even in difficulty, and avoiding the trap of comparison	Perseverance	Philippians 4:11-12 – "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances... I have learned the secret of being content." Contentment is learned, not given.	Heads of Year
5 Oct	Black History Month: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made	UK Black History Month – the God-given dignity and equal worth of every person; celebrating the richness of diverse stories and contributions	Respect	Psalms 139:14 – "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Every person carries God's fingerprints.	Kate Wenlock
12 Oct	Running the Race: Perseverance Against Adversity	Reflecting on historical and contemporary figures who persevered against prejudice and injustice – what sustained them?	Perseverance	Hebrews 12:1 – "Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith."	Heads of Year
19 Oct	One Body, Many Parts: The Gift of Difference	Celebrating the diversity of gifts and backgrounds in our school community – different strengths, shared purpose, united identity	Respect	1 Corinthians 12:20-22 – "Many parts, but one body... those parts that seem to be weaker are indispensable." Difference is not a weakness; it is essential.	Scott Richardson
HALF TERM: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2026					
2 Nov	Same Body, Same Purpose: Living Out Our Unity	Welcome back after half term – putting the previous fortnight's theme of unity in diversity into practice as we settle back into our school community	Respect	1 Corinthians 12:25-26 – "...that there be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it." Coming back together as one body.	Heads of Year
9 Nov	Remembrance: The Price of Peace	Remembrance Day (11 Nov) – the sacrifice of those who gave their lives for peace; our responsibility to honour, remember and pursue reconciliation	Respect	John 15:13 – "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." Service and sacrifice rooted in love.	Ian Fisher

16 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week: Courage to Be Kind	Anti-Bullying Week (16–20 Nov) – the courage it takes to stand up for others, the power of collective kindness, and refusing to stay silent	Perseverance	Ephesians 4:29 – "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs." Our words are a choice.	Heads of Year
23 Nov	Making Peace: Choosing Reconciliation	Peace-making in everyday life – resolving conflict well, offering forgiveness, being bridge-builders in school and community	Respect	Matthew 5:9 – "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Peace is not just the absence of conflict; it is an active choice.	Dan Bagshaw
30 Nov	Words Have Power: Speak Life	The impact of what we say and how we say it – online and offline; how language builds or destroys; choosing to speak life into others	Aspiration	Proverbs 18:21 – "The tongue has the power of life and death." What we choose to say shapes the world around us.	Heads of Year
7 Dec	Advent: Waiting with Hope	Advent season (from 29 Nov) – the discipline of patient expectation; what it means to wait with active hope rather than passive anxiety	Aspiration	Isaiah 40:31 – "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary." Hope is a source of energy.	Adam Bradshaw
14 Dec	Emmanuel: God With Us	Christmas and the incarnation – God entering the world humbly, as a child; what this tells us about God's character and our own value	Aspiration	John 1:14 – "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us... full of grace and truth." Christmas is the ultimate expression of love entering the world.	Heads of Year
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: Friday 19 December 2026 – Sunday 4 January 2027					
SPRING TERM 2027					
Date (W/C)	Collective Worship Theme	Focus	School Value	Christian Ethos Element	Presenter
5 Jan	Epiphany: Seeking What Truly Matters	Epiphany (6 Jan) and New Year – the journey of the Magi as a model for purposeful seeking; what are we pursuing in 2027?	Aspiration	Matthew 2:10 – "When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." The Magi did not stop seeking until they found. New year, renewed direction.	Kate Wenlock
12 Jan	Setting Our Course: Goals and Growth	New Year intentions with substance – working purposefully towards goals, embracing a growth mindset, trusting God with our plans	Perseverance	Proverbs 16:3 – "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." Effort and faith are not opposites.	Heads of Year
19 Jan	Holocaust Memorial Day: The Responsibility to Remember	Holocaust Memorial Day (27 Jan) – the imperative of memory, human dignity, and our duty to speak up in the face of injustice, then and now	Respect	Micah 6:8 – "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good: to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Justice is not optional; it is a calling.	Scott Richardson
26 Jan	Moral Courage: Standing on the Right Side	The courage to speak up and act when it would be easier to stay silent; historical and contemporary examples of moral courage	Perseverance	Esther 4:14 – "Who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" Every generation faces moments when courage is required.	Heads of Year
2 Feb	Integrity: The Same Person Online and Off	What does it mean to be authentic? Behaving with honesty and respect whether seen or unseen; our digital footprint as our character	Perseverance	Psalms 15:1-2 – "Lord, who may dwell in your sacred mountain? The one who walks blamelessly and does what is right, who speaks truth from their heart."	Ian Fisher
9 Feb	Safer Internet Day: Wisdom in a Digital World	Safer Internet Day (10 Feb) – navigating the online world with integrity; digital wisdom, well-being, and the gap between image and reality	Aspiration	Proverbs 4:7 – "The beginning of wisdom is this: get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight." Wisdom is active, not passive – it must be pursued.	Heads of Year
HALF TERM: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2027					
22 Feb	Lent: The Discipline of Becoming	Lent (began 17 Feb) – the spiritual practice of self-examination, giving up distractions and growing through chosen difficulty; what does growth cost?	Perseverance	Joel 2:13 – "Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love." Lent is a journey back to what matters most.	Dan Bagshaw

1 Mar	Fairtrade and Justice: Living Generously	Fairtrade Fortnight – how our everyday choices connect to global justice; the call to live in a way that is fair to our brothers and sisters worldwide	Respect	Amos 5:24 – "Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream." Justice is not a project; it is a way of life.	Heads of Year
8 Mar	International Women's Day: Called and Equipped	IWD (8 Mar) – celebrating women of faith and courage across history and today; how God equips every person regardless of gender to lead and serve	Aspiration	Proverbs 31:25 – "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come." Strength and dignity are not in conflict; they flourish together.	Adam Bradshaw
15 Mar	Holy Week: The Road to the Cross	Approaching Holy Week (Palm Sunday 28 Mar) – the journey of Jesus toward the cross; suffering with purpose, love that does not flinch	Perseverance	Luke 9:23 – "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." Faith is not easy; it asks everything.	Heads of Year & MPI
22 Mar	Easter: New Life, New Possibilities	Resurrection hope – transformation after difficulty; the Easter message as a lens on second chances, renewal and the possibility of change in our own lives	Aspiration	John 11:25 – "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." Death – of dreams, of confidence, of hope – is not the end.	Kate Wenlock
EASTER HOLIDAY: Saturday 27 March – Sunday 11 April 2027 ★ Good Friday: 2 April Easter Monday: 5 April					
SUMMER TERM 2027					
Date (W/C)	Collective Worship Theme	Focus	School Value	Christian Ethos Element	Presenter
13 Apr (Tue)	Servant Leadership: The Courage to Serve	What does it mean to lead with humility? Exploring servant leadership as a model – putting others first, using influence wisely	Aspiration	Mark 10:43-45 – "Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve." Greatness is redefined.	Scott Richardson
19 Apr	Transformed: Growing Into Our Best Selves	What does personal transformation look like? Easter as a metaphor for the change possible in each of us – in our character, habits and relationships	Aspiration	2 Corinthians 5:17 – "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!" Growth is always available to us.	Heads of Year
26 Apr	Guardians of Creation: Earth Day	Earth Day (22 Apr) – our responsibility as stewards of the world God made; connecting faith and environmental action	Respect	Genesis 2:15 – "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." Caring for creation is not optional; it is our first calling.	Ian Fisher
3 May	Small Actions, Big Impact	(Bank Holiday Mon) – How everyday individual choices contribute to collective change; the environment, our community and making a difference at every scale	Perseverance	Luke 16:10 – "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." Faithfulness in small things shapes the bigger picture.	Heads of Year
10 May	Mental Health Awareness Week: We Are Not Alone	Mental Health Awareness Week (12–18 May) – emotional well-being, the importance of seeking help, and how we support one another; removing stigma	Perseverance	Psalms 34:18 – "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Vulnerability is not weakness; it opens us to being truly known.	Dan Bagshaw & SPO
17 May	Strength in Vulnerability: It's OK Not to Be OK	Breaking down stigma around mental health; emotional honesty and peer support; what it looks like to be real with one another in community	Perseverance	2 Corinthians 12:9 – "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." God does not turn away from our struggle; he meets us in it.	Heads of Year
24 May	Pentecost: Gifts, Purpose and Community	Pentecost (23 May 2027) – the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church; discovering our unique gifts and using them for the common good	Aspiration	1 Corinthians 12:4-7 – "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them... to each one for the common good." Every person has a gift worth offering.	Adam Bradshaw
HALF TERM: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2027					
7 Jun	Refugee Week: Welcome the Stranger	Refugee Week (14–20 Jun) – the dignity of every person forced to flee; the Christian call to radical hospitality and welcome; our response as a community	Respect	Matthew 25:35 – "I was a stranger and you invited me in." Jesus does not simply ask us to be tolerant of the outsider; he identifies with them.	Kate Wenlock

14 Jun	Every Person Has a Story: Empathy and Understanding	Listening well and resisting assumptions; building bridges across different backgrounds; what it means to truly welcome rather than merely tolerate	Respect	Leviticus 19:34 – "The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt." Empathy is rooted in remembering.	Heads of Year
21 Jun	Created in God's Image: Dignity for All	LGBTQ+ Pride Month – the fundamental dignity of every person as made in the image of God; how we build communities where everyone belongs and is valued	Respect	Genesis 1:27 – "So God created mankind in his own image... male and female he created them." The image of God is broad; every person reflects something of God's character.	Scott Richardson
28 Jun	What Does It Really Mean to Belong?	Exploring genuine inclusion versus surface-level acceptance; what changes when everyone truly belongs; our responsibility to one another in community	Respect	Galatians 5:14 – "The entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: Love your neighbour as yourself." Love is the measure of belonging.	Heads of Year
5 Jul	Pressing Forward: The Race Is Not Over	End of term, final stretch – maintaining effort and integrity when tired; finishing well; the value of how we end as well as how we begin	Perseverance	Philippians 3:13-14 – "Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards." The finish line matters.	Ian Fisher
12 Jul	Transitions: Trusting the Journey	Moving year groups, moving on – transition, uncertainty and trust; God's faithfulness through change; holding on to identity through times of upheaval	Aspiration	Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." The future is held safely.	Heads of Year
19 Jul	Faith in Every Journey: Looking Back, Stepping Forward	End of year reflection – celebrating growth and resilience, expressing gratitude, and stepping into the summer with courage, faith and hope	Aspiration	Joshua 1:9 – "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." The same God who brought us this far goes with us further.	Dan Bagshaw
SUMMER HOLIDAY begins Monday 28 July 2027 ★ GCSE Results Day: Thursday 19 August 2027					