

## Religious Education Year 7 Blended Learning Booklet

## Fundamentals of Hinduism and Sikhism

Name:

## Form:

Aim to complete one lesson each week. Write out the title and LI and then complete the tasks.

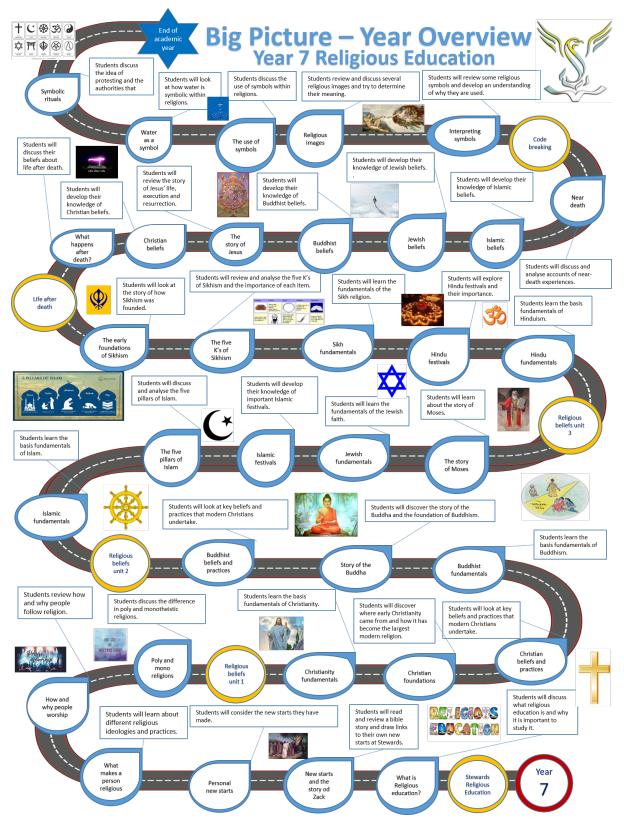
All video links are online using the ClassCharts link.

The Knowledge Organiser on page three has all the key information and vocabulary to help you with this unit.

Upload all work onto Class Charts for feedback.







*	ear 7	Year 7 RE Knowledge Organiser: Hindu beliefs about God		
ä	Brahman	nan	Vishnu	
	•	Hindus believe that there is one true God, the supreme spirit, called	•	Vishnu is the Preserver god.
		Brahman.	•	He is often seen as the most important god of the Trimurti.
	•	Most Hindus believe that Brahman is present in every person.	•	Hindus believe that Vishnu has, at various times, come to Earth and taken
	•	Hindus believe that Brahman contains everything: creation and destruction,		the form of a human or animals. These are called an Avatar. Hindus believe
		male and female, good and evil, movement and stillness.		that there will be ten in total, nine have already been.
	•	Hindus believe that Brahman has many forms, which is why Hindus believe	•	Two of the most important are called Rama and Krishna. The last will be
		in one <b>God</b> and many <b>gods</b> and <b>goddesses</b> .		Kalki.
	•	There are many gods and goddesses in Hinduism which each represent a	•	Vishnu is often shown holding a lotus flower representing purity; weapons
		different part (form) of <b>Brahman (God</b> ).		representing strength and a Conch shell for the calling people to worship.
=	heT	The Trimurti	Shiva	
	•	Hindus believe that there are three main features of Brahman:	•	Shiva is the destroyer god.
		1. Brahma the creator	•	Shiva destroys the universe making way for a period of rest and then a new
		2. Vishnu the preserver		universe will be created.
		3. Shiva the destroyer	•	Shiva is often shown performing the dance of death. The circle of fire
				represents eternity- the never ending cycle of the universe. A flame
				represents the power to destroy, create and purify. A drum represents the
				rhythm of Life as a continuous beat.
			•	Shiva is also shown dancing on a demon of ignorance (a lack of
- C	Brahma	24	und Shiva Murti	understanding).
5				
	•	<b>Brahma</b> is the Creator <b>god</b> . He has 4 heads and four arms.		0
	•	Brahma created for himself a beautiful wife called Saraswati. He created		
		four heads for himself so he could always gaze on her beauty. However, the		9
		other gods believed that because he created her she was his daughter not		
		his wife.		l l
	•	Brahma is often shown holding a spoon with holy oil accepting sacrifices; a		
		string of beads counting time; a pot of water the first element of creation;		
		and the Vedas, the Hindu holy writings.		
]				Constitution of the Consti
				Shira, Lard of the Dance
				ACT Counting (province IThe Deart) 1 Loin cloth made from inspared skin to b Ocurs to beast the righters of its represent shringth.
				c. Pite of destruction in left hand. (R. Concentration of has been about the concentration of the Manual Anatha to be those and red.)

# Year 7 RE Knowledge Organiser: Rama, Sita, Diwali and Durga

## The story of Rama and Sita

. There is rejoicing in Ayodhya. King Dashratha's eldest son - Rama - has married a beautiful princess Sita. Now the old king can hand over the kingdom to his son. But there's a problem. Dashratha's wife is the mother of his eldest child - Bharat - and she wants her son to inherit the throne. She compels Dashratha to exile Rama, Sita and Lakshman (Rama's brother) and make Bharat successor

Rama, Sita and Lakshman make their home in the forest. They live happily...until one day the evil god Ravana, disguises himself as a deer and steals Sita away to his island kingdom of Lanka. The quick-thinking Sita leaves a trail of jewellery as she is carried away so that her husband will be able to follow her.

finds where Sita is being held. Then he raises an army of animals who create a bridge, so that Rama can Help for Rama arrives in the shape of the monkey-god, Hanuman. Hanuman flies through the air and walk across the water to Lanka.

A battle takes place, at the end of which Rama and Sita are reunited and return to Ayodhya to claim their rightful inheritance.

# What does the story of Rama and Sita teach Hindus?

This is an important Hindu story that teaches Hindus:

- That marriage is important.
- To look after your husband/wife.
- That good wins over evil in the end.
- That jealousy and greed are not good traits.



## How is Diwali celebrated?

lamps'. Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops and public places are decorated Diwali is perhaps the most well-known of the Hindu festivals. The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted with small earthenware oil lamps called diyas.

successful year. Lamps are lit to help Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, find her way into people's homes. Hindus also celebrate one of the Diwali legends, which tells of the return of Rama and Sita to Rama's People start the new business year at Diwali, and some Hindus will say prayers to the goddess for a kingdom after fourteen years of exile.

In Britain, as in India, the festival is a time for:

- spring-cleaning the home,
  - wearing new clothes
- exchanging gifts (often sweets and dried fruits) and preparing festive meals
- decorating buildings with fancy lights.
- huge firework displays often celebrate Divali.

Rangoli are drawn on the floors - rangoli are patterns and the most popular subject is the lotus flower. In India Hindus will leave the windows and doors of their houses open so that Lakshmi can come in.

A goddess is a female deity/god. Hindus believe that Brahman (God) can also take a female form as a goddess. Hindu goddesses include Saraswati, Lakshmi, Parvati, Durga and Kali. Some people believe that a goddess allows women to feel more included in worship because:

- Women may feel represented.
- Women may feel goddesses can be a role model.
- Women may feel it is easier to relate to a female goddess.
- A belief in gods and goddesses promotes equality.

Other people may say that:

- Brahman no gender.
- Women and men can pray and worship **God** regardless of whether there are **gods** and goddesses.
- Focusing on goddesses could be sexist towards men.

## **Durga and the Buffalo Demon**

demons. One by one she defeated them until she reached Mahish. He turned into a buffalo, a lion, then an elephant and back into a buffalo. Finally Durga managed to slice off his head with her sword. Mahish had been killed – by a woman. The gods returned to their rightful place in heaven. Durga had saved the There was a horrible demon named Mahish who could only be killed by a woman. Mahish led an army Mahish and his army won and threw the gods out of heaven. The gods called upon Durga, the warrior goddess, to help them gain heaven back. Durga rode on her lion to heaven to begin battling with the of demons to the kingdom of the gods (heaven) to battle with the gods. After 100 years of battle world.

## What does the story of Durga teach Hindus?

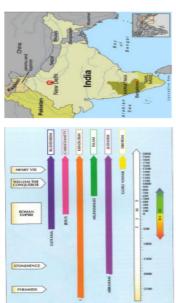
This is an important Hindu story that teaches Hindus:

- That Durga is a fierce and powerful goddess.
  - That Women can be powerful and strong.
- That gods and goddesses can defeat evil to save the world.



# RE Knowledge Organiser: What does it mean to be a Sikh?

KPI: Know and understand how beliefs influence individuals, communities and societies



## Where did it begin?

sikhism, known to Sikhs as 'Sikhi', is the youngest of the six main world religions, but has roots in faith and practices that are much older. The founder of Sikhism is Guru Nanak, who was born into a Hindu family, and wanted nothing more than to worship the One True God, which Sikhs call by many names, including Waheguru. He looked beyond the religious practices around him at the time (Hinduism and Islam) and encouraged his followers to search only for God.

Nanak worked, married young (19 year old) and had two sons. One morning when he was about 30 years old he went to bathe in the river, as usual. But he disappeared; people searched for him for 3 days with no luck, they thought he must have drowned. Then he returned. The first thing he said was; 'there is no Hindu nor Muslim'. He told people that while he was away he had a been taken to God. He had a vision which told him that just following a religion did not make a difference, it is the way they live their lives which really matters. He said that he had been told by God to spend the rest of his life teaching people. From this time on Nanak was know as Guru Nanak.

For 20 years Guru Nanak travelled, before finally settling with his first followers who became the first 'Sikhs'. They met together to meditate, listen to Guru Nanak preach and sing hymns. An important part of their lives was that they often ate together; free food was given to everyone, no matter what religious or social group they belonged to. In India at the time, this was unheard of, but Guru Nanak said that it was very important

		the Khalsa	Items which represent beliefs that are fundamental to the Sikh faith.		The community of initiated Sikhs who want to make a higher level of commitment	nism
Definitions	A spiritual leader	The last Guru, founder of the Khalsa	Items which represent be Sikh faith.	The beloved ones	The community of initiated inigher level of commitment	Initiation ceremony in Sikhism
Key Terms	Guru	Guru Gobin Singh	The 5 Ks	Panj piare	Khalsa	Amrit

## KPI: Know and understand how beliefs influence individuals, communities and societies.

## The Khal

The formation of the Khalsa is celebrated each year during the festival of Vaisakhi. It reminds Sikhs of the importance of their commitment to their faith and the fact that they are part of a wider community. The Khalsa is still growing today. It is the community of Sikhs who have decided to show their dedication to their faith by being initiated as one of the 'beloved ones'. Not all Sikhs choose to do this, but most do and this demonstration of their faith is shown by taking part in the Amrit ceremony and the daily wearing of the 5K's.

The purpose of the Khalsa is to respect the poor, defend the weak and understand that everyone is equal . Members of the Khalsa often see themselves as spiritual warriors, battling for the rights of those in need.

## KPI: Know and understand how beliefs influence individuals,

## communities and societies. The story of the Khalsa

This happened during the time of the 10th Gugr; guru Gobind Singh. He ordered all the Sikhs to meet him during the festival of Vaisakhi. To the astonishment of the crowd, the Guru came demanding the head of one of his followers as a sign of ultimate commitment. One man came forward and went into the tent. The sound a blow was heard and the Guru came out with a bloody sword. The crowd was horrified as the Guru then asked for another 4 men to come forward. Suddenly to the amazement of the crowd all 5 men the appeared with Guru dressed in orange robes and turbans with blue sashes. Guru Gobind Singh honoured the men for their bravery and gave them the title; The Panj Plare: The beloved one. He then initiated them as the first members of the khalsa, they drank Amrit (sugar water) as part of the ceremony.

# RE Knowledge Organiser: What does it mean to be a Sikh?





KPI: Know and understand religious practices.

## he Gurdwara

The Sikh place of worship is called the gurdwara. This means 'Door to the Guru'. Some gurdwaras are purpose built but some, especially outside of India, may be in converted houses or other buildings. The important thing is not the building, it is the fact that that the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book, is there.

## Inside the Gurdwara

- Diwan Hall Room where Sikh's worship
- Guru Granth Sahib's bedroom Where the Guru Granth Sahib is put at night
- Langar Kitchen and dining room where a communal vegetarian meal is served after
- Washroom To wash hands and feet before worship
- Shoe Rack/Room To keep shoes as they are not worn inside the gurdwara

## **Outside the Gurdwara**

The one thing by which all gurdwaras can be recognised is the Nishan Sahib. The Nishan Sahib a yellow/orange flag with the Sikh symbol, the khanda, on it. The flag flies high above the gurdwara.

## KPI: Know and understand religious practices.

Action	Symbolism (Deeper Meaning)
Sit on the floor in the Diwan room	Everyone is equal
Sit below the Guru Granth Sahib	The Guru Granth Sahib is extremely
	important and should be respected as if it were a human Guru (teacher)
Eat Langar together (vegetarian)	Everyone is equal and everyone can
	take part because the meal is
	vegetarian
Participate in Seva (helping out/doing	Everyone is equal and responsible for
chores)	the smooth running of the gurdwara

Key Terms	Definitions
Gurdwara	The Sikh place of worship
Guru Granth Sahib	The eternal Guru of Sikhs. A book with the teachings of the ten Sikh Gurus
Seva	Community service

KPI: Know and understand religious practices

## The Guru Granth Sahib

In Sikhism there were 10 human Gurus (teachers). The last human Guru (Guru Gobind Singh 1675-1708) announced that after him there would be no more human Gurus. Instead he said that in future the Guru would be the Sikh holy book. This contained the teachings of the Gurus, and it would be the Sikh's only teacher. Since that time, it has been called the Guru Granth Sahib.

## How the Guru Granth Sahib is treated

There is usually one person in each gurdwara responsible for reading from the Guru Granth Sahib and leading prayers. This person is known as the granthi. He or she sits behind the Guru Granth Sahib and faces the worshippers. Sometimes the granthi waves a chauri over the Guru Granth Sahib. This is a special fan made of hair or feathers. It is the same sort of fan which was held over kings in India, and is waved over the Guru Granth Sahib to show the same

Before entering the Diwan Hall everyone removes their shoes, covers their head and may wash their hands and feet to show respect to the Guru Granth Sahib. In the Diwan Hall Sikhs go to the front of the room and bow or kneel in front of the Guru Granth Sahib before sitting down, without turning their back on the Guru Granth Sahib, as this would show a lack of respect.

Guru Granth Sanib, as this would show a lack of respect.

Because the Guru Granth Sahib is so important to Sikhs it should never be kept on a shelf with other books, but should have its own room.

When the Guru Granth Sahib is open it is never left unattended.

When the Guru Granth Sahib is closed it is covered with special cloths

A Guru Granth Sahib is put away at night and brought back out again in the morning. Carrying the Guru Granth Sahib during these times is a great honour for a Sikh. It is always held above the person's head.

Sikhs respect the Guru Granth Sahib because they believe it is the word of God.



### Lesson 1- Hinduism

LI: To understand the basic beliefs about Hinduism

Task 1- Create a mind map or bullet point list about what you already know aout Hinduism.

Think about:

Their belief in God

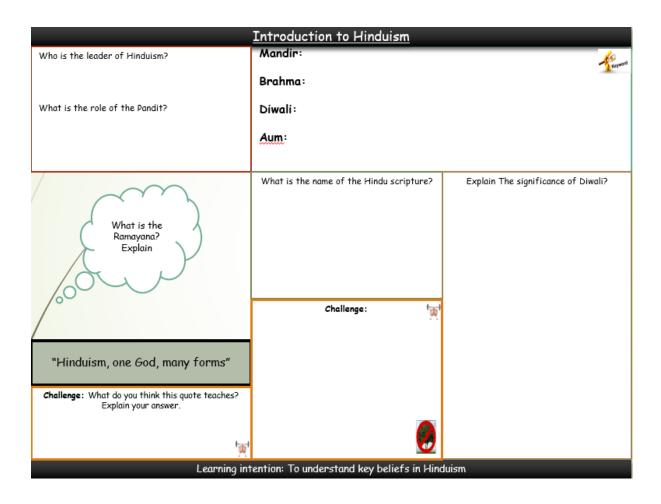
Belief in prophets

Place of worship

Symbols

Clothes

**Festivals** 





Hinduism, the religion of Hindus, is different from any other major world religion. It has:

No single historical founder

- No unified system of belief
- No central authority

Task 2: What do each of these bullet points mean?



DART

- Central to Hinduism is the belief in a supreme God **Brahman**.

  Brahman is present everywhere and there is a part of Brahman in everyone.
- Brahman takes many forms. Especially three forms called the Trimurti.
- **Brahma** is the **creator** of the world and all creatures. He is usually shown with four heads.
- Vishnu is the preserver of the world. His role is to return to the earth in troubled times and restore the balance of good and evil. He has blue skin and four arms.
- Shiva is the destroyer of the universe. Shiva destroys the universe in order to re-create it. Shiva has blue skin, a third eye and carries a trident.
- Hindus believe that life is a cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. They
  also believe that the next life depends on how the previous life was
  lived

### Question to answer using the DART:

What is the Trimurti?
Brahman is everywhere and there is a part ofinin
Brahma is the
Vishnu is the
Shiva is the

What do Hindus believe about this life and the next life?



Task:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EICcU9oN-s&t=91s

Watch the video and answer the questions and fill In the blanks.

Hindus say..... As a greeting to one another.

The Rigveda is a ......

"God is .....but we call God with .....names"

DART	

## What do Hindus believe about God?



- Hindus believe that there is one true god, the supreme spirit, called Brahman.
- Brahman has many forms, infiltrates the whole universe, and is symbolised by the sacred syllable Om (or <u>Aum</u>).
- Most Hindus believe that Brahman is present in every person as the eternal spirit or soul, called the atman.
- Brahman contains everything: creation and destruction, male and female, good and evil, movement and stillness.
- There are three main aspects of Brahman.
- These are expressed in the trimurti and are:
- 1. Brahma, the creator
- 2. Vishnu, the preserver
- 3. Shiva, the destroyer



## Lesson 2 The Caste system and festivals

LI: To understand what the caste system is in Hinduism and to understand the significance of the caste system.

Task: Answer the questions in your books

What is a caste system?

Is it a fair way to live in society?

Key words:

Meritocracy – progress made on ability, talent and hard work (e.g., Football league)

## Stewards Academy

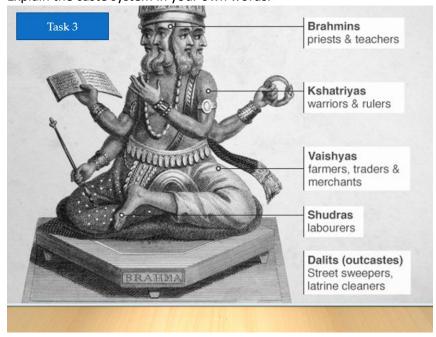
Caste – The social position one is born into and can not change (e.g., the royal family – not a caste but the nearest thing in the UK)

Dalit – the name given to the untouchables, those considered below the caste system.



Create a table showing the different castes in Hinduism (using the next slide).







Dalit, meaning "broken/scattered" in Sanskrit and Hindi, is a term mostly used for the ethnic groups in India that have been kept depressed (often termed backward castes). Dalits were excluded from the four-fold varna system of Hinduism and were seen as forming a fifth varna, also known by the name of Panchama

What is Holi?

The background

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pp59n0So-XE

Answer the questions after watching the video:

Who was Ram married to?

How long was Ram exiled for?

Who went into the forest with Ram?

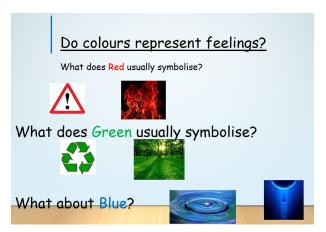
Who was Ravaan?

Who was taken?

They came across an army of.....

The story of Holi.

### https://youtu.be/yRD8JlfLRRM





Hindus believe colours are important in life to help you feel happy and





Usually around spring time they celebrate something called 'Holi' - it is known as the 'Festival of Colours'

## So how do Hindu's celebrate Holi?

- To celebrate the story, large bonfires are burned during Holi.
- In many parts of India, a dummy of Holika is burned on the fire.

Which British celebration does this remind you of?



## So where does the idea of colours come from?

- This festival of colours symbolises the triumph of Good over Evil. It spreads the joy and happiness in human life.
- To represent this Hindus literally spread colour everywhere. Colours in liquid or powder form are showered on people usually dressed in white clothes.

## Lesson 3: Diwali

The Hindu Festival of Light

Li: To understand the significance of Diwali in Hinduism

Why is light such a powerful symbol?

Why is it used in so many cultural or religious events?



Why is it a symbol of good?

When do we use light?

Why is darkness a symbol of evil?



- 1) Write down the key words and a definition: Diwali, Diva, Rangoli, Lakshmi
- 2) What do you think might be the most important part of the story for a Hindu? Explain your opinion.
- 3) Explain why lamps are lit at Diwali. Make sure you refer to the story of Rama and Sita in your answer. (4 marks)
- 3) 'Light is only an important symbol for religious people' Do you agree? Give reasons for your opinion showing that you have considered another point of view. Make sure you refer to Diwali in your answer. (6 marks)

Research 1) How is Diwali celebrated?

2) Why is it important to Hindus?

Describe how a Hindu might celebrate Diwali, and the symbolic meaning behind these celebrations.



create a table in your book which outlines the main events at Diwali and explain their significance with reasons

Significance

Lesson	Λ.	CILL	I	l: _ £ _
Lesson	Д.	SIKN	ne	HATS

Learning Intentions:

To explain Sikh beliefs

To understand why Sikhs carry certain items.

Do now task.

Do you know anything about the Sikh religion? Create a mind map about any key terms linked to Sikhism.

Key words

Guru Granth Sahib - The Sikh Holy book.

Guru Nanak - The founder of Sikhism

Sewa – Sikh requirement to help others.

Ik Onkar – Religious symbol in Sikhism Expressing belief in one God.

Copy the questions and find the answers whilst you watch the video

What does the symbol 'ik onkar' mean?

Who wrote the Munmantar prayer?

Guru nanak came from a place in India called......

The shadow of the	protected Guru Nanak as he slept.
He went missing for	Days.
Sikh means	

Guru Nanak is the founder of Sikhism. Guru means 'Teacher'.

Sikhism is still based on his teachings and those of the nine Sikh Gurus who followed him.



Guru nanak means.....

Sikhism was founded by Nanak, now known everywhere as Guru Nanak (1469-1539). A Guru is a word for a religious teacher and leader. After his death he was succeeded by a succession of men who all added customs and teachings to the tradition. Sikhs believe their prayers and hymns were inspired by God.

The last of these men, who died in 1708, was Guru Gobind Singh. He decided that rather than appoint a human successor, he would leave the Sikh community to be guided by the writings and teachings of all the Gurus in written form. Uniquely, the Sikh holy book also contains writings and prayers from Hindu and Muslim sources too.

The book is now treated in exactly the same way as a human leader would be.

Choose any three points from this text which you think are the most important and write them in your book.

The Ten Gurus

Guru Nanak was the first Sikh Guru. During his travels, he would talk about the virtues of God and the best method to living an honest and fulfilled life.

He would often tell his companions to play instruments as he sang and wrote his divine messages.

What do Sikhs believe?

That everyone was created by one God, therefore everyone is equal.

Stress the importance of equality and treating men and women equally.

All men are called 'Singh' meaning 'lion'.

All women are called 'Kaur' meaning 'princess'.

Sikhs follow the teachings of the 10 Gurus.

Believe in only one God and that God has no form so should not be pictured.



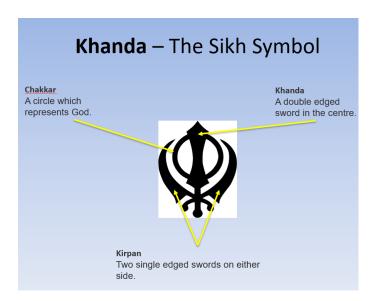
What does Sikhism say about other religions?

There is only one God.

Believe that as there is only one God, all religions must be worshipping the same God.

Believe in religious tolerance.

Their Holy Scripture is created from a mixture of Hindu and Muslim teachers.











Lemon and Herb	Medium	Extra Hot
Explain Why the 5 K's are so important to Sikhs	Explain why the three parts of the Sikh religious symbol are important.	The Sikh belief that all monotheistic religions are worshipping the same God could help to prove that a single powerful God exists.  Do you agree? Explain your point of view.
The five K's are really important for Sikhs because	The three parts of the Sikh symbol are important because.	I believe that the Sikh belief that all monotheistic religious are worshipping the same God does / does not help to prove that a single powerful God exists because

### RE Knowledge Organiser: What does it mean to be a Sikh?

**KPI:** Know and understand religious practices.

The 5 K's

Sikhs demonstrate their membership of the Khalsa by committing to perform daily

prayers and also by wearing the 5 K's.

These objects are not special in themselves, but they represent beliefs and practices that are significant for Sikhs. The Turban is not one fo the 5 K's, but it is an important outward sign of their faith for Khalsa Sikhs.



Key Terms	Definitions
The 5 K's	Items which represent beliefs that are fundamental to the Sikh faith.
Turban	A head covering for a male Sikh to wear in order to keep his hair clean and tidy

Kesh	Uncut hair – Hair should be left to grow, but must be kept clean and combed. This represents that sikhs are not altering what God created, showing devotion.
Kirpan	A sword – reminds Sikhs that it is their duty to fight against evil. The Kirpan should never be used for attack.
Kache ra	Shorts worn as underwear – at the time they were introduced most men wore long, loose clothes. Guru Gobind Singh said that it was a symbol of changing times. But they were also more practicle during battle!
Kara	Steel bracelet – At first was very broad and used to protect arms in battle; today, the circle bangle remind Sikhs that God has no beginning or end and the steel is a symbol of strength.
Kanga	Small comb – keeping clean and tidy is part of a Sikh's religion. The comb helps the hair stay neat and reminds them that their lives should be tidy and organised



## Lesson 5: The Guru Granth Sahib

Li: To understand what the Guru Granth sahib is.

To understand how it is respected in Sikhism.

### Do Now:

What is your favourite book and why?

Have you ever been taught an important lesson by a book?

What was it and why have you remembered it?

Word of Mouth Vs Written Word

What are the advantages of sending a message through word of mouth?

What are the benefits of sending a written message?

### Which is better – word of mouth or written word?





### Adi Granth

After the first four Gurus completed their writings the fifth Guru collated their poems and hymns and formed the Adi Granth.

Guru Arjan was in complete awe of the divine words that he read and whilst compiling the Adi Granth he would place the scriptures on a higher platform to show respect to the Word of God.

In 1708, Guru Gobind Singh was asked who he was going to appoint as his successor. He replied by saying "Follow the Guru in the scripture form." Meaning that the Guru Granth Sahib would be the everlasting and final Guru of the Sikhs.

The Guru Granth Sahib is made up of 31 Ragas (melodies) over 1430 pages.

Each poem/hymn either praises God or gives instruction to the reader on how to bring peace into their lives.

When the Guru Granth Sahib is not being read, it is covered with a cloth (rumala) and carefully carried on the priest's head. This shows the high respect that Sikhs have for the Guru Granth Sahib

It is carried away to its own bedroom, where it is placed in bed and allowed to rest over night. This is done in order to show respect towards the Guru Granth Sahib, and to remind Sikhs to treat it like a living Guru



Why?	→ Nando's →	4
Lemon and Herb	Medium	Extra Hot
Explain Why the Guru Granth Sahib is so important to Sikhs.	Explain why Guru Granth Sahib is kept in its own room.	Explain why you thin that after worship Sikhs sit and eat food together.
The Guru Granth Sahib is really important for Sikhs because	The Guru Granth Sahib is kept in its own room because	I believe that Sikhs share food after worship because
0, 1-10	The Market	

## Lesson 6: The Five Ks

LI: to understand the importance of the 5 ks in Sikhism

If you could carry 5 items with you every day what would they be and why you have chosen these items?

### The five ks:

kachera – short trousers or beeches – signify readiness to ride into battle.

Kesh – uncut hair. Devout Sikhs do not cut their hair or beard at any time.

Kara – steel bangle. A complete circle symbolizing one God and one truth without beginning or end. The steel symbolizes strength.

kirpan – a small sword or dagger reminder the Sikh of the need to fight against oppression in any form.

Kanga – a comb to keep the hair in place.

What do you remember from last lesson?



What does Guru mean?

How many Gurus are there in Sikhism?

### The Story of Guru Gobind Singh and the Five K's

There are ten human Gurus and Guru Gobind Singh is the last one. A long time ago terrible things were happening to Sikhs in India and so Guru Gobind Singh decided to do something about it.

One day in a place called Anandpur the Guru gathered the Sikhs to celebrate their harvest festival. At the festival he called for a man who was willing to die for his faith.

Soon one man stepped forward and went into a tent with the Guru. Then the Guru reappeared with blood on his sword. He then asked for another volunteer and another man went into the tent with the Guru. Once again, the Guru came out of the tent with his sword covered in blood. So, two men went in and did not come out again. The Guru then asked for a third volunteer and the same thing happened. He asked for a fourth volunteer and again reappeared with blood on his sword. He then asked for a fifth volunteer and again the Guru reappeared with blood on his sword.

https://youtu.be/yBDhEon1d\_U

In all five men went in. As far as the crowd could tell, the Guru.

had killed five men in the tent. Eventually, the Guru opened the tent and revealed the five men alive.

This was the beginning of Khalsa – a new family of Sikhs.

Think about this story and write and write the answers to the following questions:

Who was Guru Gobind Singh?

Why was Guru Gobind Singh significant to the Sikhs?

What did Guru Gobind Singh ask the people?

What happened at the end?

What do we learn from the story?

Guru Gobind Singh gave all Sikhs the name Singh and Kaur

Singh means lion.

Kaur means princess.



This means that everybody is equal.

Guru Gobind Singh asked all Sikhs to wear five symbols expressing their allegiance to the new Sikh community – Khalsa.

Caste distinctions were abolished by Guru Gobind Singh Ji. When a disciple becomes a Khalsa, he renounces his previous caste and becomes a member of a casteless society.

What does Langhar mean?

Why do you think it is important for Sikhs to eat on the floor?

Gurus made every attempt possible to eliminate the caste system. Langar (Where free meals are served to visitors) was established where all people gather to eat food while sitting together at the same level on the floor, as there is nothing lower than the floor. Furthermore, by knowing the last name one could distinguish which caste the person is from, Guru Gobind Singh gave all Sikh men the last name "Singh" and all Sikh women the last name "Kaur" so that no one can distinguish anyone's caste. Everyone is considered equal in Sikhism.

- 1. The First K is Kesh uncut hair.
- 2. The next K is Kangha a comb
- 3. Then Kara steel band
- 4. Followed by Kachha Shorts
- 5. Finally Kirpan Sword

Task - briefly explain what each of the Five Ks stand for?

