

RE | Intent and Implementation

Why do we teach religious education?

The purpose of RE is to promote religious literacy, beginning in the foundation years. This requires pupils to gain knowledge and understanding of a range of religions and worldviews and to use that knowledge to engage in informed and balanced conversations about religions and beliefs. In addition to learning about religions and worldviews, RE offers pupils the opportunity to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally and to reflect on their own beliefs, enabling them to develop discernment about the many attitudes and opinions which they will encounter within a diverse community.

RE plays an important role in preparing pupils for adult life, employment and lifelong learning. It helps children and young people become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens. It gives them the knowledge, skills and understanding to discern and value truth and goodness, strengthening their capacity for making moral judgements and for evaluating different types of commitment to make positive and healthy choices.

RE gives varied opportunities to promote an ethos of respect for others, challenge stereotypes and build understanding of other cultures and beliefs. This contributes to promoting a positive and inclusive school ethos that champions democratic values and human rights.

What is our curriculum aim?

Pupils should:

- Know about and understand a range of religions and worldviews (both globally and within the local community)
- Express ideas and insights about the nature, significance and impact of religions and worldviews
- Gain and deploy the skills needed to engage seriously with religions and worldviews
- To achieve these aims, RE provokes challenging questions about meaning, purpose, beliefs about God, issues of right and wrong and what it means to be human.
- RE plays an important role in preparing pupils for life in a modern world and should enable them to flourish as citizens in a diverse global society.



How is religious education taught?

Step 1 – Engagement: The human experience underpinning the key question is explored within the children’s own experience, whether that includes religion or not e.g. a human experience underpinning the question, ‘What is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God?’ is ‘commitment’, so lesson 1 aims to help all children resonate with the experience of ‘commitment’ in their own lives. If they can relate to this human experience they will be better able to understand the world of religion into which the enquiry takes them. Their personal resonance with this underpinning human experience acts as the BRIDGE into the world of religion (which may be very much outside of their experience).



Step 2 – Investigation: The children are guided through the enquiry, using a range of appropriate resources for experiential learning, allowing the children to ‘step into’ the subject using a wide range of learning styles. For example, this may be through watching relevant videos, listening to stories, discussion & recording, handling artefacts & meeting people from different faith groups by either inviting them to school or visiting places of worship.

Step 3 – Evaluation: This draws together the children’s learning, allowing them time to reflect on their own lives and to reach their own conclusions about the key question of that enquiry. This can be through a formal assessment task if appropriate using the age-related expectation descriptors at the end of each enquiry. However, this may be done through other expressive methods such as creative art allowing children to express their ‘learning about’ and ‘learning from’ the subject.

Step 4 – Expression: Children are taken back to Step 1, their own experience, to reflect on how this enquiry might have influenced their own starting points and beliefs.



RE | Content Spine



	Autumn	Spring	Summer
Y1	<p>Christianity : The creation story</p> <p>Christianity: The Christmas story</p>	<p>Christianity : Jesus as a friend</p> <p>Christianity : Easter – Palm Sunday</p>	<p>Judaism : Shabbat</p> <p>Judaism : Chanukah</p>
Y2	<p>Christianity : What did Jesus teach?</p> <p>Christianity : Christmas – Jesus as a gift from God</p>	<p>Islam : Prayer at home</p> <p>Christianity : Easter - resurrection</p>	<p>Islam : Community and belonging – Mosque</p> <p>Islam : Hajj</p>
Y3	<p>Sanatana Dharma(Hinduism) : Sanatana Dharma beliefs – Diwali</p> <p>Christianity : Christmas – Incarnation</p>	<p>Christianity : Jesus’ miracles</p> <p>Christianity : Easter - forgiveness</p>	<p>Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism) : Brahman</p> <p>Sanatana Dharma(Hinduism) : Prayer and worship</p>
Y4	<p>Judaism : Relationship with God</p> <p>Christianity : Symbolism in the Christmas story</p>	<p>Judaism : Passover</p> <p>Christianity : Easter – forgiveness</p>	<p>Judaism : Commitment to God</p> <p>Christianity : Prayer and worship</p>
Y5	<p>Sikhism : Belief into action</p> <p>Christianity : The Christmas story – is it true?</p>	<p>Sikhism : Beliefs and moral values</p> <p>Christianity : Easter – crucifixion</p>	<p>Sikhism : Prayer and Worship</p> <p>Christianity : Commitment to God</p>
Y6	<p>Islam : Commitment to God</p> <p>Christianity : Christmas – Jesus the Messiah</p>	<p>Christianity : Eternity</p> <p>Christianity : Easter – resurrection</p>	<p>Islam : Beliefs and moral values – Akhirah</p>

RE | Progression Map – Beliefs and Teachings



Year 1

- Retell some parts of religious stories.

Year 2

- Describe some religious ideas from stories.
- Describe some religious beliefs, teachings and events.
- Tell you about what concepts like belonging, commitment, kindness and forgiveness mean to me in my own world.
- Express my own thoughts.

Year 3

- Show what I know about religious beliefs, ideas and teachings.
- Tell you about the concept / belief e.g. belonging and how it relates to the faith group I am studying.
- Express own opinions and start to support them with rationale.

Year 4

- Explain my understanding of religious beliefs, ideas and teachings in a variety of ways.
- Compare stories from faith groups that I am studying with those of other religions I have studied.

Year 5

- Explain the significance of some religious beliefs, teachings and events for members of faith communities.
- Begin to describe some differences and similarities between religions.

Year 6

- Explain how some beliefs and teachings are shared by different religions.
- Explain how beliefs and teachings affect the lives of individuals and communities.
- Explain how the concept / belief (e.g. forgiveness) resonates in my own life and see how this might be different for others because of their religion / belief.
- Express my thoughts having reflected on them in relation to other people's.

RE | Progression Map – Practices and Lifestyles

Year 1

- Recognise religious objects.
- Recognise religious people.
- Recognise religious places.
- Know about some of the things that people of a religion do.

Year 2

- Describe some religious objects, places and practices.
- Start to use religious vocabulary to begin to describe the significance of facts and practices.

Year 3

- Show what I know about religious objects and places and how they are used.
- Show what I know about religious people and how they behave.

Year 4

- Explain the relevance and importance of objects, places and behaviours.

Year 5

- Explain the practices and lifestyles involved in belonging to a faith community.

Year 6

- Explain how religious life and practices affect the lives of individuals and communities.
- Recall facts about religions and explain differences in practice and interpretation within and between religions / belief systems.

RE | Progression Map – Express Meaning



Year 1

- Name some religious symbols.
- Know what some religious words mean.

Year 2

- Know how religious beliefs can be expressed through the arts.
- Describe the messages or meanings of some religious symbols.

Year 3

- Identify religious symbolism in literature and in the arts.
- Verbalise and/or express own thoughts.

Year 4

- Understand the significance of religious symbolism to people of different religions.
- Express my own opinions and start to support them with rationale.

Year 5

- Explain some of the differing ways that believers show their beliefs, ideas and teachings.
- Use a range of sources to interpret information about a religion.

Year 6

- Explain, using the correct terminology, how religious beliefs and ideas can be shown in many different ways.
- Express my own thoughts having reflected on them in relation to other people's.

RE | Progression Map – Reflect upon Religion



Year 1

- Talk about the parts of life I find interesting.

Year 2

- Ask a range of questions about puzzling aspects of life.
- Suggest answers, including religious ones.

Year 3

- Ask questions that have no universally agreed answers.
- Apply knowledge to an enquiry question and give an answer supported by one or more facts.

Year 4

- Take part in meaningful discussions about ultimate questions, forming my own opinions and ideas.
- Suggest answers to an enquiry question based upon knowledge and understanding that I have developed about a religion.

Year 5

- Ask questions and suggest answers about the significant experiences of others, including religious believers.
- Explain my own ideas and beliefs about ultimate questions.

Year 6

- Explain why there are differences between my own and others' ideas about ultimate questions.
- Weigh up evidence and different arguments/aspects relevant to the enquiry question, support by evidence.

RE | Progression Map – Values



Year 1

- Know that I have to make my own choices in life.

Year 2

- Know the effect of actions on others when thinking about moral dilemmas.

Year 3

- Explain how shared beliefs about what is right and wrong affect people's behaviour.

Year 4

- Understand that religion and belief can have a significant impact on people's values.

Year 5

- Ask questions about matters of right and wrong and suggest answers which show I have an understanding of moral and religious teachings.

Year 6

- Express own values.
- Respond to the values and commitments of others.
- Reflect upon sources of inspiration in my own and others' lives.

RE | Progression Map – Identity and Experience

Year 1

- Say what is important in my life.
- Compare this to religious beliefs.

Year 2

- Describe my feelings to other people.
- Know that other people have feelings.
- Talk about how my feelings may be similar to those of characters in religious stories.

Year 3

- Reflect upon what it means to belong to a faith community.

Year 4

- Respond to the challenges of commitment in my own life, and within religious traditions.

Year 5

- Recognise that commitment to a religion can be shown in a variety of ways.

Year 6

- Recognise and express my feelings about my own identity and link this to my learning about religion.

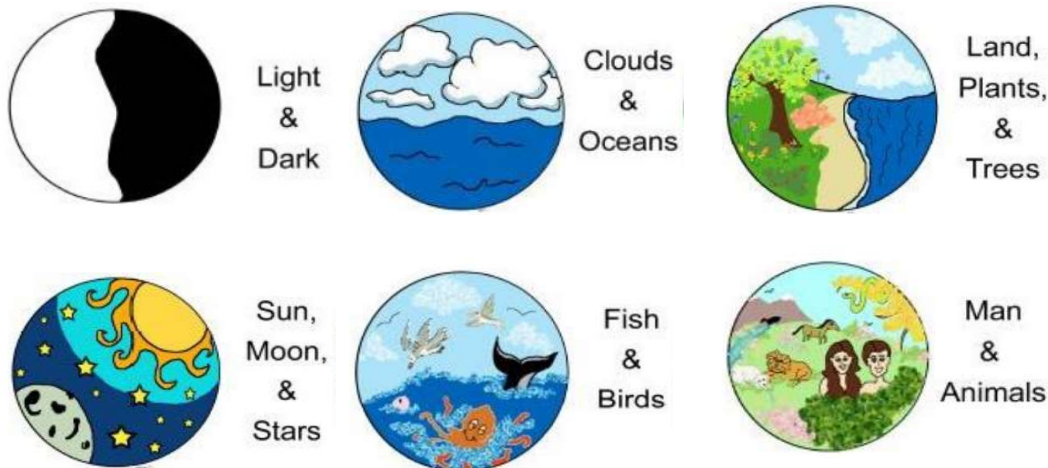
RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 1 – Christianity: The Creation Story

Key Question

Does God want Christians to look after the world?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe that God created the world and everything in it.
- God made the world in seven days:
 - Day 1: God made light and dark.
 - Day 2: God made water.
 - Day 3: God made dry land and plants.
 - Day 4: God created the sun, moon and stars.
 - Day 5: God created birds and fish.
 - Day 6: God created animals and people.
 - Day 7: God sat down to have a rest.
- Christians believe God created humans in His image.
- God wants people to look after the world as He has created it for them and gave it to people to enjoy and to look after for Him.



Key vocabulary

create	to make something
creation	something that has been made
Earth	the planet that we live on
positive	something good
negative	something bad
treat	to behave toward in a particular way

Links with other Religions

- God as a creator (Judaism). Jewish people also believe that God created the world and everything in it in six days and rested on the seventh day.
- Waheguru (Sikhism). Sikhs believe that Waheguru (God) created the universe, the world and every life form within it. There are no creation stories in Sikhism.
- Brahma (Hinduism). Hindus believe the universe was created by Brahma, the creator who made the universe out of himself. They believe it is the power of Vishnu which looks after the world and human beings.
- Allah (Islam). Muslims believe Allah (God) is the Creator of the Universe and the world and that all people have a responsibility to care for the world and all that is on it. They believe Allah created the world in six days.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 1 – Christianity: The Christmas Story

Key Question

What gifts might Christians in my town have given Jesus if he had been born here rather than Bethlehem?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- The Bible says that his birth showed that he was extraordinary and that he came to bring good news. Christians celebrate Jesus' birth.
- Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming.
- Christians believe that God came to Earth to be with people and show them how to live.
- God came to earth to bring good news to everyone.
- The good news was about God and how to be close to him.
- Christmas is a time when many Christians thank God that Jesus came to earth to show and tell people how to live.
- Gospel of Luke: The Angel Gabriel told Mary that she would have a son and call him Jesus. Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem to be counted in the census. While they were there, Jesus was born. Mary laid him in a manger because there was no room at the inn. An angel appeared to some shepherds and told them about Jesus' birth. The shepherds found Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the manger. They praised God and thanked him for what they had seen.

Links with other Religions

- Chanukkah (Judaism). Both are winter festivals, celebrated by retelling the story and giving gifts, special foods and customs, and remember God giving gifts to his people.
- Jesus (Judaism). Jews do not believe Jesus was the Son of God.
- Jesus (Islam). Muslims believe Jesus is a messenger of Allah (God). They do not believe Jesus is the Son of God.

Key vocabulary

Jesus	Christians believe Jesus is the son of God
God	Christians believe God is the creator of the universe
Bethlehem	a small town in Jerusalem where Jesus was born
bible	a book of holy writings accepted by Christians as coming from God
Christian	someone who believes in the teachings of Jesus
advent	the arrival of something or someone
Mary / Joseph	Jesus's mother and her husband
Nazareth	a city in Israel where Jesus lived
stable	a building where animals were kept
manger	a long trough from which horses or cattle feed
shepherds	a person who herds, tend or guards sheep
angels	a spiritual being serving God
census	an official count of the people who live in an area
nativity	the birth of Jesus



Key Question

Was it always easy for Jesus to show friendship?

Key Beliefs

Christians believe that Jesus showed many examples of being a friend and helping others in need:

Story of Zacchaeus

Zacchaeus was hated because he was a tax collector. He wanted to see Jesus so he climbed up a tree. Jesus saw him and asked to visit his house. This made people very unhappy. After seeing Jesus Zacchaeus said that he would give money to the poor!

Mary, Martha and Lazarus

Lazarus was very sick, so Mary and Martha (his sisters) asked for Jesus` help. He loved them and so said that he would. Unfortunately Lazarus died, but Jesus was able to bring him back to life!

Calming the Storm

Jesus and his friends needed to travel by boat across the lake. During the trip, Jesus feel asleep, but then a fierce storm developed. Jesus` friends woke him up
– Jesus was able to calm the storm.



Key vocabulary

friend	someone with who you have a bond or you care for.
Zacchaeus	A tax collector who wasn't liked by most people
tax	a sum of money that you have to pay
Lazarus	a man who was brought back from the dead
bible	the Christian holy book
friend	someone with who you have a bond or you care for.

Links with other Religions

- Islam – members of the Muslim community refer to each other as brothers and sisters to reinforce the brotherhood and friendship of mankind.
- Draupadi and Krishna – Hinduism. Draupadi and Krishna were best friends and displayed mutual love and respect for each other.
- Judaism – Judaism defines friendship as one of the primary relations in life.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 1 – Christianity: Easter

Key Question

Why was Jesus welcomed like a king or celebrity by the crowds on Palm Sunday?

Key Beliefs

- Palm Sunday is the story of when Jesus travelled into Jerusalem on a donkey. Jesus chose a donkey because they are gentle and peaceful.
- Crowds started to come out to greet Jesus. People waved and screamed and treated him like a king. They shouted 'Hosanna' and laid **palm leaves** down for him to travel over. The palms were a sign that Jesus was a king.
- Jesus entered the temple at Jerusalem and healed the blind and the lame.
- The Jewish leaders were jealous that Jesus was so popular.
- **Why was Jesus welcomed like a king?**
The people welcomed Jesus like this because they had heard about all the amazing things He did e.g. healing people, calming the storm etc.
They believed He would be the 'Messiah', the one who would save them from the Roman occupation.
- **Why is Jesus special to Christians?**
He is special to Christians because they believe He is the Son of God.
- **What happened to Jesus after Palm Sunday?**
Jesus was put to death on a cross but he came back to life again on Easter Sunday.



Key vocabulary

Welcome	A way of greeting someone in a polite or friendly way.
Palm leaf or palm cross	A leaf thrown in front of Jesus and a cross made in church.
Disciple	A personal follower of Jesus.
Hosanna	An expression of joy or praise shouted at Jesus.

Links with other Religions

- Lulav (Judaism). The date palm is one of the Four Species used in the daily prayers on the feast of Sukkot. It represents the victory of the Jewish people.
- Hinduism – the palm leaf is often used in religious ceremonies as a symbol of good fortune. They are sometimes used in rituals to bring good luck.
- Buddhism – the palm leaf can often be found on Buddhist temples in Southeast Asia, where it represents purity and piety.
- Islam – the palm represents rest and hospitality in many cultures of the Middle East. The presence of palm trees around an oasis showed that the water was a gift from Allah (pbuh).

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 1 – Judaism: Shabbat

Key Question

Is Shabbat important to Jewish children?

Key Beliefs

- Shabbat is the day of rest in the Jewish religion.
- The Jewish Holy books contain the Creation Story which says that God created the world in six days
- and rests on the seventh – the Sabbath. For Jews, Saturday is the day of rest – Shabbat.
- Shabbat is celebrated both in the home and the synagogue.
- No work is done from sunset on Friday until sunset on Saturday so food is prepared before the Sabbath starts.
- The start of Shabbat is marked with a special meal and ceremony in the home.
- When worshipping, Jews wear a skull cap called a kippah. It is worn by men as a sign of respect to God.
- Making sure you are prepared for the Sabbath is important to Jews.
- On the day of rest, Jews take time to focus on God and what God has done for them.
- Shabbat is a time when families come together in the presence of God in their own home.
- Shabbat candles are lit at sunset on a Friday by Jewish women.
- Jewish families drink wine because it symbolises joy and celebration.
- Challah bread is eaten on the Sabbath. A prayer is said before the bread is eaten.
- The whole family will go to the synagogue on Saturday.



Key vocabulary

kippah	skull cap
Sabbath	a day of rest
synagogue	a building in which Jews meet for worship
Challah	braided bread

Links with other Religions

- The 10 Commandments (Christianity/Judaism). The fourth commandment is: “remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”
- Easter (Christianity). Jesus was taken down from the cross on Friday because of Shabbat. Women didn’t visit the tomb until Sunday because Saturday was a day of rest. Jesus wasn’t resurrected until Sunday as God rested on the Saturday.
- Sabbath (Sikhism and Buddhism). Sikhs and Buddhists do not consider any particular day of the week as a holy day.
- Sabbath (Christianity). The Christian Sabbath is Sunday, and on this day many Christians go to church and spend time with their families.
- Jumah (Islam). Muslims have a special day for congregational prayer on Fridays at noon (Jumah) but they do not have a Sabbath.
- Deities (Hinduism). There is no set day for worship in Hinduism but different deities (gods/goddesses) are linked to different days of the week and may be remembered on those days.

Key Question

Is Chanukah important to Jewish children?

Key Beliefs

- Chanukah is also spelled Hanukkah.
- It is an 8-day, 'festival of lights.' celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods.
- It is usually celebrated in December.
- Many families celebrate by giving each other gifts each night of the 8-day celebration.
- There are Jewish songs and hymns that are special for Chanukah.
- Jewish people enjoy special foods like potato pancakes, doughnuts stuffed with jam and fritters.
- The traditional food is fried in olive oil to represent the miracle of the burning oil lamp.
- Some Jewish people go to the synagogue to celebrate Chanukah. In the synagogue, there are special masses and readings. A special prayer is said to thank God.
- Psalms of praise are recited during the 8 days of Chanukah and the Torah is read every day.
- Synagogues will also light the menorah.

More than 2,000 years ago, the Jewish people fought against an enemy who would not allow them to practice their religious traditions. Their enemy destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem, which contained many holy objects including a special lamp called the menorah.

One small group of people, called the Maccabees, was led by a brave man named Judah. He led them in a fight against their enemies. Even though they were outnumbered, the Jewish people were brave and won the battle. When Judah returned to the Temple in Jerusalem the first thing he did was light the sacred lamp but there was almost no oil left - only enough for one day. The lamp was filled with this oil and lit. Instead of burning for only 1 day, it burned for 8 days.

This is called the miracle of the oil and is where the 8 days of celebration comes from.

Key vocabulary

celebration	anything that is planned or done in order to honor or remember something
menorah	a special candleholder with nine candles
dreidel	a four-sided top that children play with during Chanukah
hymns	a song or poem written in praise of God or a country
festival	a ceremony or celebration that repeats often once a year and involves special activities.

Links with other Religions

- Jesus (Christianity). Jesus was Jewish.
- Christmas (Christianity). Both are winter festivals, celebrated by retelling the story and giving gifts, special foods and customs, and remember God giving gifts to his people.
- Diwali (Hinduism). Diwali is another festival of lights that lasts for 5 days. Both festivals are celebrated with the lighting of candles (diyas/menorahs) and the giving of presents. They both celebrate the triumph of good over evil.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 2 – Christianity: What did Jesus teach?

Key Question

Is it possible to be kind all of the time?

Key Beliefs

- Jesus' most important teaching was to 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'
- Jesus tells Christians to be kind to everyone.
- Christians try to follow Jesus' example of being kind to people.
- The story of The Good Samaritan teaches Christians that they should be kind to others. The priest and the Levite didn't help the injured Samaritan – they were not 'loving their neighbours as themselves.'
- The Samaritan is the only person who helps the man. At that time, Jews and Samaritans were enemies but the Samaritan 'loves his neighbour' and helps the injured man.
- Jesus showed kindness when he healed the paralysed man.
- In these stories, the Bible shows Christians that Jesus taught that everybody is their neighbour and that they should show love and kindness to everyone.



Key vocabulary

moral	the lesson about right or wrong learned from a story or event
parable	a very short story told to teach a moral or religious lesson
paralysed	you cannot move or feel a part of the body
Christian	one who believes in Jesus Christ and follows his words and teachings
priest	a person who leads prayers and religious services
levite	a legal expert
Samaritan	someone from Samaria (in Israel)
neighbour	a person who lives next door or close by
enemy	one who hates another person

Links with other Religions

- Christmas (Christianity). Christians celebrate Jesus' birth.
- Easter (Christianity). Christians remember when Jesus died for their sins on the cross.
- SEWA (Sikhism). SEWA means 'selfless service'. It involves helping others without any reward.
- Torah (Judaism). Jews aim to show kindness to others as the Torah teaches that people should love others in the same way that they love themselves. (Love your fellow as yourself – Leviticus 19:18).
- Dana (Hinduism). Dana (giving) in Hinduism is about giving generously to those in need.
- Metta (Buddhism). Metta (loving-kindness) means showing kindness to others so that they will be well and happy. One way to show loving-kindness is to help other people.
- Good Deeds (Islam) Muslims believe they must be kind because everyone is a special creation of Allah (God). Giving to charity and helping others are considered good deeds and there should be no expectation of anything in return.

Key Question

Why do Christians believe God gave Jesus to the world?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.
- The Bible says that his birth showed he was extraordinary and that he came to bring good news.
- Christians celebrate Jesus' birth.
- Advent for Christians is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming.
- Christians believe Jesus was God on earth.
- Jesus brought good news to very poor people.
- Christmas is a time for giving – the wise men gave presents when Jesus was first born.
- It's also a time to remember that poorer people (shepherds) visited Jesus, who came for both rich and poor people.
- As Christmas is a time for both giving and thinking of the poor, lots of Christians like to give presents and help those in need at Christmas time.
- Gospel of Matthew After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Wise Men came looking for the King of the Jews. When King Herod heard this, he was worried. King Herod sent the Wise Men to find the child so that he could worship him. The Wise Men followed the star until they found Jesus. They bowed down and worshiped him; giving him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were warned in a dream not to return to Herod.



Key vocabulary

incarnation	'in the flesh'
wise men	men of great learning
kingship	being a king
gold	a precious yellow metal
frankincense	a scented resin used in perfume
myrrh	natural resin used as perfume
carol	a religious song or hymn linked to Christmas
magi	another word for the wise men
Messiah	'anointed one' – a name given to person believed to be the savior.
worship	love and devotion shown to a holy being or object
King Herod	a king of Judea

Links with other Religions

- Chanukkah (Judaism). Both are winter festivals, celebrated by retelling the story and giving gifts, special foods and customs, and remember God giving gifts to his people.
- Jesus (Judaism). Jews do not believe Jesus was the Son of God.
- Jesus (Islam). Muslims believe Jesus is a messenger of Allah (God). They do not believe Jesus is the Son of God.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 2 – Islam: Prayer at Home

Key Question

Does praying at regular intervals help a Muslim in his/her everyday life?

Key Beliefs

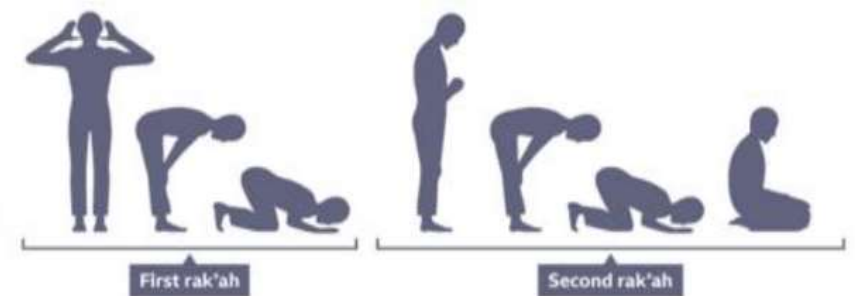
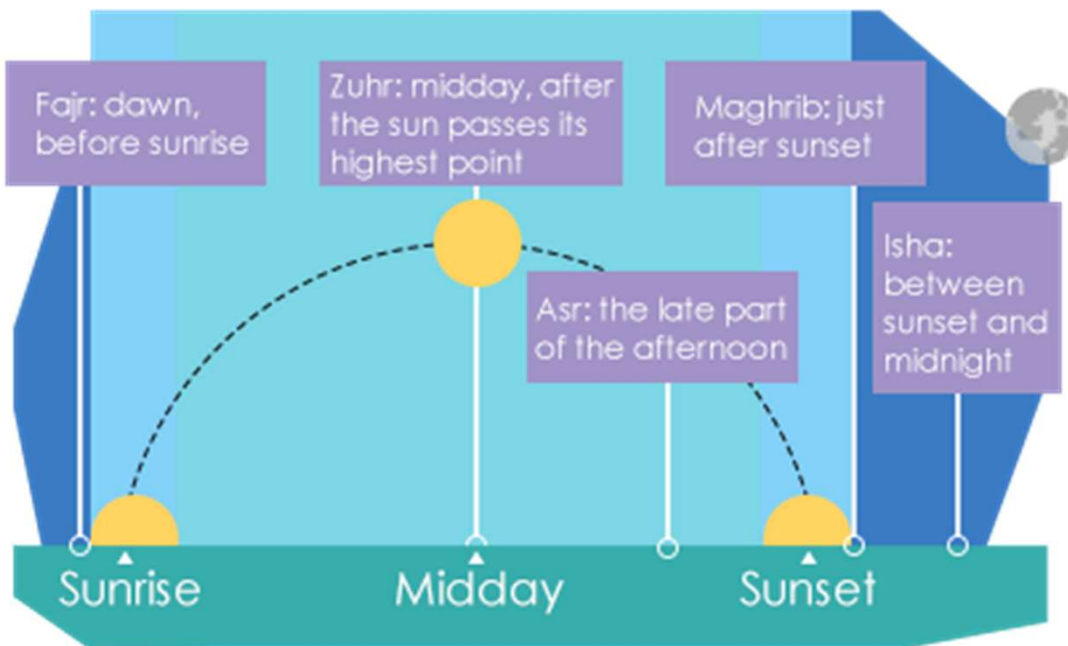
- The most important Muslim practices are the Five Pillars of Islam and Salat is the second pillar.
- Praying keeps Muslims in close contact with Allah.
- Praying helps Muslims remain committed to living a good and purposeful life.

Key vocabulary

commitment	being dedicated to something
obligation	something that you must do
five pillar of Islam	the five obligations that every Muslim must carry out to live a good live according to Islam
Salat	performing ritual prayers five times each day
Kaaba	first mosque built to worship Allah
Mecca	a city in Saudi Arabia where the Kaaba is found

Links with other Religions

- In Christianity, prayer at home is called private worship. A cross or a crucifix can be used as a symbol to pray to or with.
- For Hindus, most prayer is said at home, including first thing in the morning. Hindus consider prayer at home to be as important as prayer at the Mandir (temple) and that there is power in the words of a personal mantra.
- In Judaism, the home is often considered the most important place of worship and that praying at home helps build their relationship with God.



Key Question

How important is it to Christians that Jesus came back to life after his crucifixion?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe Jesus builds a bridge between God and humans.
- Christians believe Jesus did more than teach people how to live; he also showed how to live.
- Christians say that Jesus died to 'save' us, to pay the price of sin in the world and reunite people with God.
- Christians believe that God has the power to forgive sins.
- Jesus showed that he was willing to forgive all people, even for putting him on the cross.
- Jesus shows what God is like and his example of forgiveness reminds Christians that God will forgive them and that they should forgive others.
- On Maundy Thursday, Jesus celebrated Passover with his disciples. It was called The Last Supper because it was the last meal Jesus had with his disciples before he died. They ate bread and wine which Jesus said was his body and blood. Jesus washed his disciples' feet to show that everyone is a servant of God.
- Even though Jesus was good there were people who hated him. They did not like it when he said he was the King of the Jews. Some people hated Jesus so much that they found a way to have him put on trial and sentenced to die on a cross.

Key vocabulary

forgive	to stop being angry with someone
sin	bad things that people do
salvation	the saving of someone from sin or evil
reunite	to come together again
crucifix	a representation of a cross with a figure of Christ on it
chalice	a large cup or goblet
paten	a plate, typically made of gold or silver

Links with other Religions

- Passover (Judaism). Jesus celebrated Passover with his disciples at The Last Supper.
- Teshuva (Judaism). Jews believe if they make a wrong choice, they must ask for forgiveness. Forgiveness can only be given from the person they have wronged (the victim). Jews repent (say sorry) and try to make up for the wrongs they have done.
- Allah (Islam). The Qur'an strongly encourages Muslims to forgive wrongdoing. Muslims believe they should forgive others, just as Allah (God) will forgive people on the Day of Judgement for the wrong things they have done.
- Gurus (Sikhism). Sikhs believe in forgiveness because this was the teaching and example of the Gurus. The Guru Granth Sahib encourages Sikhs to be forgiving;
- Forgiveness (Hinduism). Hindus believe that forgiveness is essential to a Hindu's life and that it brings about good, peace and happiness.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 2 – Islam: Community and Belonging

Key Question

Does going to a Mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging?

Key Beliefs

- Mecca is in Saudi Arabia and is the birthplace of the prophet Muhammed (pbuh). It is home to the **Kaaba**, which is the cube shaped building at the centre of the **Grand Mosque**.
- Muslims believe that praying together in groups brings greater blessings than praying alone. The prophet Muhammad said, 'Prayer at home is counted once, prayer at the local mosque is equivalent to twenty-five prayers.'
- Hajj is an annual Islamic **pilgrimage** to Mecca, which is the holiest city for Muslims. Muslims wear special **haji robes**.
- Wudu is A washing routine conducted before Islamic prayers:

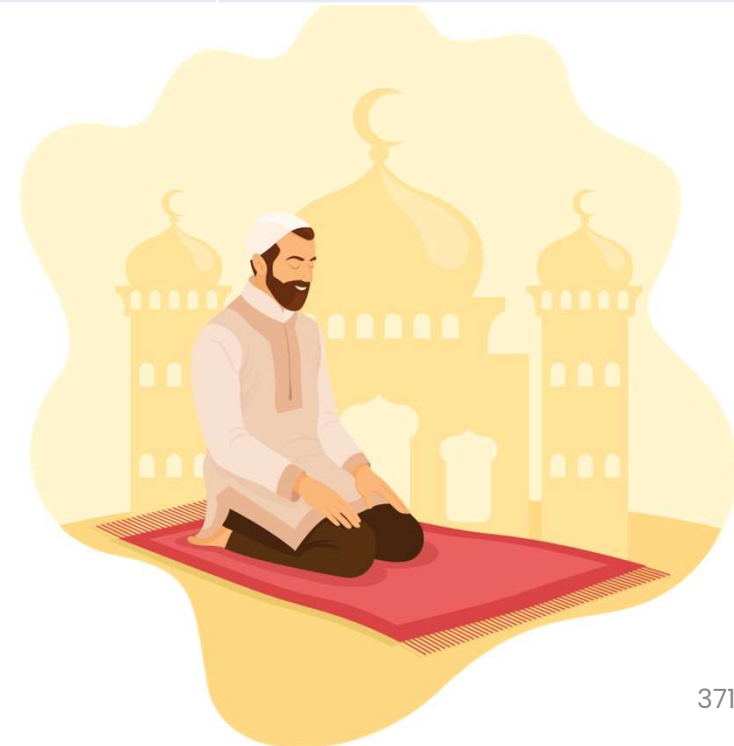
Wash hands three times
 Wash mouth three times
 Wash nose, face and arms three times
 Wet head and wash feet

Links with other Religions

- Christians worship in a church.
- Hindus worship in a temple called a Mandir.
- Sikhs worship in a Gurdwara.
- Jews worship in a synagogue.
- Buddhists worship in a temple, but any place where there is an image of Buddha can be a shrine where people can worship together.

Key vocabulary

Muhammad (pbuh)	The last and most important prophet of Islam.
Qur'an	The Islamic holy book.
Allah	The Arabic word referring to God.
mosque	The Islamic place of worship.
minaret	A tall thin tower in a mosque.
mihrab	An alcove that shows the direction of Mecca.
minbar	A place in the mosque where the prayer leader stands.
musalla	An open space used for prayer outside a mosque.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 2 – Islam: Hajj

Key Question

Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?

Key Beliefs

- Muslim people have five duties which are called the Five Pillars of Islam. Every Muslim tries to carry out these five things, and it helps them to feel that they are members of the worldwide Muslim community.
- Mecca is the heart of Islam and is a very special place to all Muslims. Every day, Muslims pray in the direction of this city no matter where they are in the world.
- Every Muslim is expected to make the journey (pilgrimage) to Mecca at least once in their life (as long as they are well enough and are able to afford it). This is known as Hajj. They gather at **Mount Arafat** for Hajj prayers.
- In Mecca there is a huge mosque called **Grand Mosque**. Inside the mosque is a stone building covered in black cloth which is seen as the holiest place in the world for Muslims. Muslims face the Kaaba when praying, no matter where they are in the world.



Key vocabulary

Salah	Muslims must pray five times a day. Before prayer , they must wash themselves.
Shahadah	This Pillar is believing and saying the words. "There is no god except Allah.
Pilgrimage	A special journey to a place of (religious) significance.
Five Pillars	The five things that Muslims are expected to do: Salah (Prayer), fasting, have faith, give charity and Hajj.
Hajj robes	Special clothes worn during the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Links with other Religions

- Pilgrimage is not compulsory in Christianity, but many Christians choose to undertake journeys to holy sites to deepen their connection with God.
- The Hebrew bible instructs all Jews to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem three times a year: in spring for Passover, in summer for Shavuot and in autumn for Sukkot.
- One of the most important pilgrimages in Hinduism is the Kumbh Mela, where millions of people attend and bathe in the Ganges.
- Sikhism discourages pilgrimages.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 3 – Sanatana Dharma (Hinduism): Diwali

Key Question

Would celebrating Diwali at home and in the community bring a feeling of belonging to a Sanatana Dharma child?

Key Beliefs

- Diwali is the celebration of light. It originates in India.
- Diwali takes place every year and lasts for five days. The exact dates of Diwali depend on the position of the moon, but it is usually celebrated between October and November.
- For many, Diwali honors Lakshmi, the Hindu goddess of wealth. The lights and lamps lit are said to help Lakshmi find her way into peoples' homes to bring good luck in the year to come.
- During Diwali people exchange gifts, have delicious feasts, watch firework displays and wear new clothes.



The story of Rama and Sita

Key vocabulary

Sanatana/Hindu	A member of the Sanatana Dharma/Hindu faith
Diwali	The Hindu festival of lights.
Rama and Sita	Key characters in one of the main stories
Ganesha	A Hindu god with the head of an elephant
Temple	A symbolic place where Hindus worship together
Diya lamp	A type of lamp used during Diwali
Lotus flower	A flower that has symbolic meaning in the Hindu faith
Rangoli pattern	Patterns used during Diwali to bring luck.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 3 – Christianity: Incarnation

Key Question

Has Christmas lost its true meaning?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe that God is Trinity: God as three in one - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Christians worship God as a Trinity.
- Christians believe the God the Father is the creator: he sent his Son (Jesus) who saved his people; the Son send the Holy Spirit to his disciples.
- Christians find that understanding God is challenging: people spend their whole lives learning more and more about God.
- Jesus, the Son of God, is seen by Christians as revealing what God the Father is like.
- Christians believe the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, supporting them to follow Jesus.



Key vocabulary

trinity	the belief that there is One God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
incarnation	the Christian belief that God took on human form by becoming Jesus
gospel	'Good News' – in Christianity, "good news" refers to sotry of Jesus Christ's birth, death and resurrection.
carol	a religious song or hymn, usually associated with Christmas

Links with other Religions

- Many religions believe in one God. Belief in the Trinity is unique to Christianity.
- Allah (Islam): Muslims believe in one God (Allah). They believe Allah has no shape or form and that he has no children or parents.
- God (Judaism). Jews do not believe in the Trinity. They believe that God alone should be worshipped.
- Waheguru (Sikhism). Sikhs believe that there is only one God. They believe God is without form or gender.
- Brahman (Hinduism): Hindus believe in one God called Brahman. Brahman takes on many forms that some Hindus worship as gods or goddesses. Hindus also believe in the 'trimurti' – three Gods who are responsible for the creation, upkeep and destruction of the world: Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 3 – Christianity: Jesus' Miracles

Key Question

Could Jesus heal people? Were these miracles or is there some other explanation?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe Jesus is God in a human body so has the power of God and can do anything, including healing people.
- Christians believe Jesus is the incarnation of God and that he had a special ability to heal people.
- As part of his ministry (described in the New Testament), Jesus performed many miracles.
- The Blind Man Jesus and his disciples saw a man who had been blind since birth. Jesus spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva and put it on the man's eyes. He told him to wash the mud off and when he did, the man could see.
- The Paralysed Man Jesus was preaching the word of God to a large crowd of people. Some men came, bringing a paralysed man with them but they could not get him to Jesus. They made an opening in the roof and lowered the man into the room. Jesus told the paralysed man his sins were forgiven. He told the man to get up and go home. The paralysed man got up and walked home.



Key vocabulary

miracle	an extraordinary event that happens outside the usual rules of science
heal	to make free from injury or disease
incarnation	to become flesh
new testament	the second part of the Christian Bible, recording the life of Jesus Christ
trinity	the belief that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
paralysed	unable to move
preach	to give a religious speech
sin	an act of disobedience against God
forgive	to stop blaming someone

Links with other Religions

- Trinity (Christianity). Christians believe there is one God who is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- The Qur'an (Islam). Muslims believe that Jesus performed miracles. The Qur'an mentions several of Jesus's miracles, including giving sight to the blind.
- Allah (Islam). Miracles are important in Islam and there are many examples of miracles recorded in the Qur'an, for example when the Prophet Muhammad was taken through the heavens to meet Allah. Muslims believe that Allah (God) can perform miracles.
- Chanukkah (Judaism). When the Maccabees returned to the Temple, they lit a lamp which had enough oil for one day. The oil lamp burned for 8 days. This can be considered a miracle.
- Miracles (Hinduism). There are many examples of miracles in Hindu scripture. Miracles related to the gods, for example Lord Shiva bringing his beheaded son back to life with an elephant's head. Some Hindus believe that these events actually happened. Others interpret miracles as a way to express messages.

Key Question

What is 'good' about Good Friday?

Key Beliefs

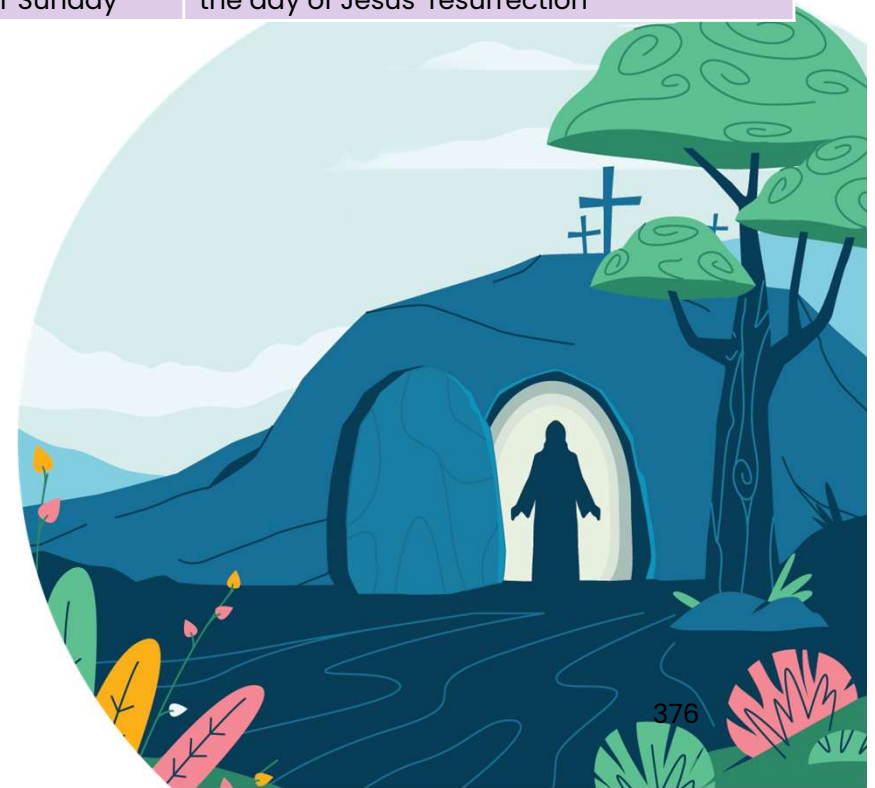
- Christians see Holy Week as the end of Jesus' earthly life, leading to his death and resurrection.
- The events of Holy Week were important in showing the disciples what Jesus came to earth to do.
- Christians today trust that Jesus really did rise from the dead and so is still alive today.
- Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' last week, death and resurrection.
- For Christians, Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday are times to remember the joy, sadness or despair and hope felt by the followers of Jesus, and Jesus himself.
- Christians believe Good Friday was necessary as it allowed the resurrection to happen – good came from the crucifixion as Jesus died for people's sins.
- Christians believe Jesus was resurrected to be with his Father, God. This gives Christians hope that when they do things wrong they can be forgiven, and that when they die they will go to heaven.

Links with other Religions

- Bilal (Islam). Bilal listened to the words of the prophet and believed that there was only one God. He stood up for his beliefs even when he was punished.
- Guru Arjan (Sikhism). The fifth Guru was sentenced to death by Emperor Jahangir after refusing to stop teaching Guru Nanak's message.

Key vocabulary

Holy Week	the week before Easter, starting on Palm Sunday
resurrection	the rising of Jesus from the dead
disciples	followers of Jesus
salvation	the act of delivering (or keeping away) from evil or saving from sin
gospels	tell the life and teachings of Jesus. There are four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Like and John
Mary	the mother of Jesus
Palm Sunday	the day Jesus arrived into Jerusalem on a donkey
Good Friday	the day Jesus was crucified and died
Easter Sunday	the day of Jesus' resurrection



Key Question

How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything

Key Beliefs

- Hindus believe in a universal soul or God called Brahman.
- They believe that there is a part of Brahman in everyone and this is called the Atman.
- Hindus believe that Brahman takes on many forms which some Hindus worship as gods or goddesses.
- The essence of each god is Brahman.
- These gods are sent to help people find/understand the universal God (Brahman).
- There are three main Hindu deities (the trimurti): Brahma – creator, Vishnu – preserver and Shiva – destroyer.
- Most Hindus have a personal god or goddess to whom they pray to regularly.
- Hindus believe that Brahman is present in all things.
- They believe that Brahman is eternal and everywhere at once.
- Hindus use images and objects to portray God. Hindus do not worship these, but worship Brahman through them.
- Hindus are free to worship God in a variety of forms.
- Salt in Water You know the salt is in the water but you can't see it. Brahman is present everywhere although you don't see him.
- The Fig Seed You cannot see Brahman, as you cannot see the inside of the tiny seed of a fig, but Brahman is there and gives life to all, as the seed produces the fig tree.



Key vocabulary

Brahman	the Hindu name for the Universal Spirit that is everywhere and part of everything
Atman	Eternal self. Often referred to as 'spirit' or 'soul' It indicates our true self which underpins who we are.
universal deity	relating to or affecting all a god or goddess
essence	the basic or most important idea or quality of something
Chadogya Upanishad	one of the Hindu holy books
Trimurti	having three forms : refers to the main aspects of Brahman

Links with other Religions

- Allah (Islam): Muslims believe in one God (Allah) and worship only Allah. They believe Allah has no shape or form. Muslims believe Allah is eternal – He has always existed and will always exist.
- God (Judaism). Jews believe that there is only one God and God alone should be worshipped. They believe that God is eternal – He has always existed and will always exist.
- Waheguru (Sikhism). Sikhs believe that there is only one God who is eternal. They believe that a part of Waheguru is within all beings. There are no images of Waheguru.
- Omnipresence (Christianity/Islam/Judaism). Christians, Jews and Muslims believe God/Allah is omnipresent – he is present everywhere in the world, at all times.

Key Question

How can Brahman be everywhere and in everything

Key Beliefs

- For many Hindus, religion is more a matter of practice than of beliefs,
- What you do may be considered more important than what you believe.
- Hindus are committed to God and show their commitment in different ways.

Puja

Worship can take many forms and is a very personal aspect of daily life. Most Hindus will worship every day, mostly at home, using a private shrine where offerings are made and prayers (mantras) are said. A shrine can be part of a room, a small altar or simply pictures or statues of the deity. Worship can be performed alone at home or in a temple with others. Family members often worship together. Hindu worship is primarily an individual act rather than a shared one as it involves making personal offerings to the deity. Worshippers repeat the names of their favourite deities and repeat mantras. Water, fruit, flowers and incense are offered to God.

Pilgrimage

A pilgrimage can help Hindus by connecting them with Brahman. Through pilgrimage, they can show their belief in God. The River Ganges is one of the most sacred rivers in the world and is important as it is where Hindus bathe in the hope they can wash their sins away. Hindu's believe that bathing in the river helps to cleanse the soul – people are baptised in the river and the ashes of people who have died are poured into the river.

Vedas

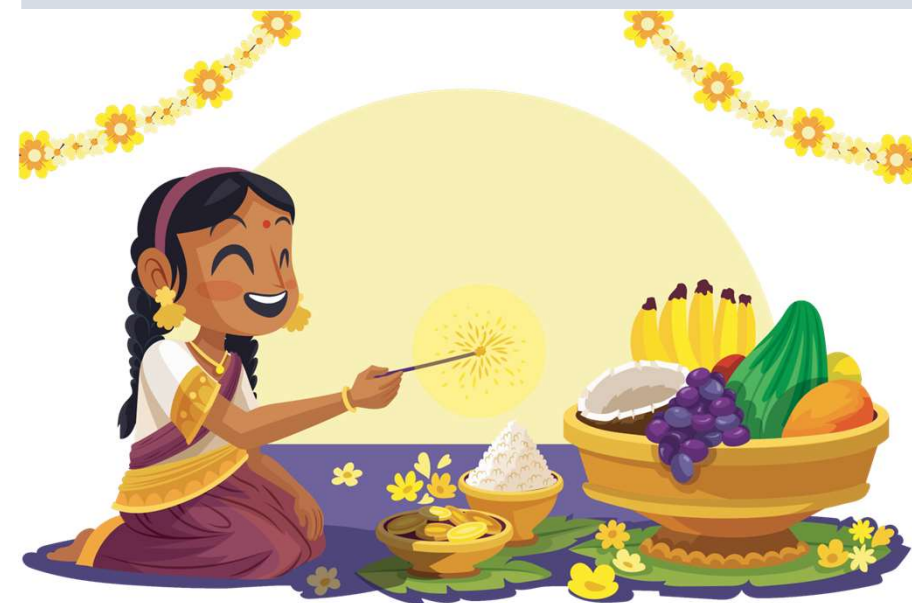
Hindus are given guidance as to how to live their lives through the Vedas which are the oldest religious texts in Hinduism and are the law. Dharma is the code for leading one's life. Hindus believe they have a duty to act in the right way that God teaches. How Hindus live their lives is as important as worship.

Key vocabulary

commitment	a willingness to give your time and energy
Vedas	knowledge
Puja	worship
Dharma	teachings
pilgrimage	a special religious journey

Links with other Religions

- Shrine (Buddhism). The most important part of a Buddhist temple is the 'shrine room.' Many Buddhists have shrines at home. They bring offerings of candles, flowers, incense, food and gifts.
- Worship (different religions). For most religions, worship can take place privately (at home) or publicly (in a place of worship).
- Islam: Both the mosque and the home are important places of worship for Muslims. The Qur'an teaches that the whole world is a mosque, so people can pray anywhere.
- Pilgrimage (different religions). Going on pilgrimage is a sacred duty for many faiths. For example: Jerusalem (Judaism), Bethlehem and Lourdes (Christianity), The Golden Temple (Sikhism), Bodh Gaya (Buddhism) and Makkah/Hajj (Islam). *Pilgrimage is not compulsory for Christians or Sikhs.



Key Question

How special is the relationship Jews have with God?

Key Beliefs

- Jews show their commitment to God in lots of different ways.
- They show their commitment because of the covenant they have made with God.

The Synagogue

The main place for community worship is the synagogue. It is a place to meet, worship and pray. Jews listen to and think about readings from the Torah.

Tu B'Shevat

Jews believe that God created the world and everything in it. Because of this, Jews believe the environment is something they should look after. One festival which remembers this is Tu B'Shevat. Jews show respect by planting new trees.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

These coming of age ceremonies are times where a child becomes an adult in the Jewish community. After these ceremonies, Jewish boys or girls become responsible for living according to Jewish Law. This means that the child is responsible for their own spiritual actions and for following the commandments. The children will prepare for the ceremony by studying the Torah and they will read from it during the ceremony.

Mitzvah Day

This day is dedicated to doing good things for other people. Jews do good things on this day because they believe it's what God would want them to do – to be kind and loving. These good things usually focus on helping people or the local environment, for example litter picking, beach cleaning and volunteering to help different charities.



Key vocabulary

Bar Mitzvah	'Son of Commandment' – the coming of age ceremony for a boy
Bat Mitzvah	'Daughter of Commandment' – the coming of age ceremony for a girl
Mitzvoth	doing good deeds and helping others
Mitzvah day	a day when Jewish people give their time to help others
Tu B'Shevat	Tree planting ceremony
Synagogue	Jewish place of worship
Torah	the first part of the Jewish bible

Links with other Religions

- Jesus (Christianity). Jesus was Jewish.
- Shabbat, Chanukah, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Passover (Judaism). These are all ways Jews show commitment to God.
- The Covenant (Judaism). After the coming of age ceremonies, Jewish children are expected to follow the commandments set out in the Covenant.
- The 5Ks and the Amrit Ceremony (Sikhism). Sikhs often display their commitment to the religion by joining the Khalsa and wearing the 5Ks.
- Ceremonies (different religions). Lots of religions have coming of age ceremonies to show a believer committing themselves to God/their beliefs, for example: First Holy Communion and Confirmation (Christianity) and the Sacred Thread ceremony/(Upanayana (Hinduism).

Key Question

What is the most significant part of the nativity story for Christians today?

Key Beliefs

In the Christmas story, there are lots of important symbols which show the birth of Jesus was a special event:

- The angels symbolise that Jesus wasn't an ordinary man. Angels aren't everyday occurrences and were there to show people that Jesus was a special gift from God.
- The star guided the Wise Men just as Jesus is the light that guides people to God.
- The Wise Men and the Shepherds show the difference between rich and poor, symbolising that Jesus is a gift to everyone.
- The gifts from the Wise Men: gold is a precious metal symbolising how precious Jesus is and represents his Kingship. Frankincense is used in perfume and incense and represents Jesus' priestly role, Myrrh is also used in perfumes and incense and in Jesus' day was an embalming oil which symbolises his death.
- A Christingle is another important symbol for Christians.
- It is a symbol of the Christian faith and reminds Christians of 'Christ's light.'
- The orange represents the world. The candle reminds us of Jesus as Christians believe Jesus is the light of the world
- The red ribbon goes all around the 'world' and reminds Christians that Jesus died – it symbolises His blood.
- The four cocktail sticks have two meanings; the four seasons or the four corners of the world.
- The sweets or dried fruit symbolise God's gifts to the world, including kindness and love.

Key vocabulary

incarnation	"in the flesh"
Christingle	a symbolic object
symbol	a sign or object with a special meaning
frankincense	a scented resin used in perfume
myrrh	a natural resin used in perfume
Jesus	Christians believe he is the son of God
wise men	men of great learning
embalming oil	oil used on a person who has died

Links with other Religions

- Many religions use symbols to represent their beliefs.
- The Seder Plate (Judaism). The Seder plate traditionally holds five or six items, each of which symbolises a part of the Passover story.
- The 5Ks (Sikhism). The 5 Ks symbolise that the Sikh who wears them has dedicated themselves to a life of devotion and submission to the Guru. Easter (Christianity). There are lots of symbols associated with Easter, for example Easter Eggs and Hot Cross Buns.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 4 – Judaism: Relationship with God

Key Question

How important is it for Jewish people to do what God asks them to do?

Key Beliefs

- Jews have a special relationship with God. They believe that God will take special care of them if they do the things He asks them to do. They try to respect this relationship and show this respect in their lives by doing as God asks.
- Every year, Jewish families celebrate Passover and have a special meal called the Seder meal.
- The Seder plate is divided up into sections. Each section has a different item to remind Jews of the Passover story.
- Chazeret: bitter herbs represent the bitterness of slavery.
- Beitzah: a hard boiled egg. Eggs become harder when they are cooked – a symbol of the Jews' determination to keep their faith.
- Charoset: a sweet brown paste made of fruit and nuts, representing the mortar that the Israelites used for building bricks when they were slaves.
- Maror: bitter herbs symbolising the bitter suffering of the Israelites when they were slaves.
- Karpas: celery or parsley dipped into a bowl of salty water, representing the salty tears the Israelites cried when they were slaves.
- Z'roa: a lamb bone which represents the lamb that was sacrificed and brought to the temple the night before the Israelites left Egypt.
- There are also four small glasses of wine to remind Jews of the four times God promised freedom to the Israelites.
- Matzah: unleavened (flat) bread. The Pharaoh told Moses and the Israelites to go at once – they left in such a rush that their bread didn't have time to rise.

Key vocabulary

respect	a positive feeling or action shown towards someone
covenant	a special relationship based on shared promises
Seder meal	a meal remembering the events of the Exodus
Torah	the Jewish holy book
commandments	an order
Passover	a festival to remember the Israelites freedom from slavery

Links with other Religions

- Jesus (Christianity). Jesus was Jewish.
- Shabbat, Chanukah, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (Judaism). These are all ways Jews remember and celebrate the special relationship they have with God.
- The 10 Commandments (Christianity). Both Jews and Christians believe God gave Moses 10 rules that they should follow.
- The Easter Story (Christianity). Jesus celebrated Passover with his disciples at The Last Supper.



Key Question

Is forgiveness always possible for Christians?

Key Beliefs

- Christians see Holy Week as the end of Jesus' earthly life, leading to his death and resurrection.
- The events of Holy Week were important in showing the disciples what Jesus came to do.
- Christians today trust that Jesus really did rise from the dead and so is still alive today.
- Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' last week, death and resurrection.
- Remembering the events of the Last Supper is so important for most Christians that they take Communion regularly.
- **The Last Supper**
 - Jesus celebrated Passover with his disciples. It was called The Last Supper because it was the last meal Jesus would eat before he died. Jesus and the disciples ate bread and wine. Jesus said the bread was his body and the wine was his blood.
 - While they were eating, Jesus said that one of his disciples (Judas) would betray him.
 - During the meal, Jesus washed the disciples' feet. The disciples didn't want Jesus to wash their feet because it was a lowly task that would normally have been performed by a servant. Jesus washed his disciples' feet to show them the importance of selfless service. It showed how he was going to be a servant for all when he was crucified.



Key vocabulary

symbol	something that represents or stands for something else
Passover	a festival every year celebrated by Jewish people
betray	to be false or disloyal to
parable	a simple story used to illustrate a moral or lesson
servant	someone that serves others
salvation	the saving of human beings from sin
communion	Christians have bread and wine at church to remember Jesus
paten	a plate, typically made of gold or silver used to hold communion bread
chalice	a large cup or goblet containing communion wine

Links with other Religions

- Passover (Judaism). Jesus was celebrating Passover with his disciples at the Last Supper.
- Yearly Celebrations (different religions). Most religions celebrate the same festivals every year to remember significant events in their religion, for example: Channukah, Tu B'Shevat, Passover, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur (Judaism), Advent and Christmas (Christianity), Vaisakhi and Divali (Sikhism), Holi and Diwali (Hinduism) and Ramadan and Eid (Islam).
- Shabbat (Judaism). Jewish people celebrate Shabbat weekly to remember God resting on the seventh day after he created the world and the 10 Commandments given to Moses by God. Jews also share meals together during Shabbat.

Key Question

What is the best way for a Jew to show commitment to God?

Key Beliefs

- Jews believe there is one God who every Jew can have a special relationship with.
- Jews believe that they are the 'chosen people' of God. Jewish history begins with the Covenant between God and Abraham around 1812 BC.
- God made a special promise that He would look after Abraham and all his descendants. He showed this by giving him and his wife a son, even though he was 99!
- Jewish people believe that God has always kept His promise to look after them, for example when God helped the Jews escape from slavery in Egypt.
- After leaving Egypt, the Jews were in need of rules and order to help them live life in the way God wanted.
- Moses was given the Ten Commandments and God asked the Jewish people to live by these as their promise to him.
- These rules still impact on Jewish life today.
- Many Jews have a mezuzah on the doorpost in their home. Inside the mezuzah is a scroll with Hebrew writing called the Shema.
- The Shema is a declaration of faith in one God. It says that Jewish people should love God and keep His rules.
- The mezuzah and Shema are a daily reminder of the covenant and the fact that the rules need to be followed.



Key vocabulary

agreement	a decision between two or more groups of people
promise	a statement by a person that they will or will not do something
trust	firm belief in something or someone
covenant	a special promise
mezuzah	a small case placed on Jewish doorposts containing the Shema
Shema	an important prayer for Jews
descendent	a person who is related to you and who lives after you

Links with other Religions

- Jesus (Christianity). Jesus was Jewish.
- The 10 Commandments (Christianity). Both Jews and Christians believe God gave Moses 10 rules that they should follow.
- Passover (Judaism). During Passover, Jews remember how God helped them escape from slavery in Egypt. This is one example of how God looked after Jews.
- The Five Pillars of Islam (Islam). Muslims believe they must carry out five duties in order to live a good and responsible life and be closer to God.
- The Noble Eight-Fold Path (Buddhism). This is the way the Buddha taught that Buddhists should live their lives.
- Khalsa (Sikhism). Khalsa Sikhs must follow the Rahit Maryada, which is the Sikh code of conduct.

Key Question

Do people need to go to church to show they are Christians?

Key Beliefs

- The Old Testament tells the story of a particular group of people, the children of Israel known as the People of God – and their relationship with God.
- The People of God try to live in the way God wants, following his commands and worshipping him.
- They believe he promises to stay with them and Bible stories show how God keeps his promises.
- In the story of Noah, God sent the flood to bring good into the world and wipe out evil.
- After the flood, he promised to stick with people – even though people often make mistakes; God keeps on forgiving.
- The story shows that people have responsibilities given by God – part of being the People of God is trying to live by God’s commands.
- When God gives rules in the Noah story, he is making a covenant.
- There is an emphasis on promises and a covenant between God and his people in the Old Testament.
- The covenants show people correct beliefs, attitudes and behaviours that are appropriate for being in a caring relationship with God, but they also show what they can expect from God.
- In the same way as Noah, some Christians give up things to follow God because they believe that everyone can be one of the People of God.
- Christians try to follow God’s directions in order to do this.
- Lots of Christians dedicate their lives to acting in ways that they think will please God.
- Whilst they may give up some things, they think loving God is more important and more rewarding.
- A Christian wedding is like a covenant because both parties make promises – to each other and to God.
- Christians say following God includes trusting God, obeying God, believing that God promises to stay with them, forgiving others and believing that God will do this too.

Key vocabulary

bible	the Christian holy book
Old Testament	the first part of the bible, before Jesus’ birth
New testament	the second part of the bible which tells the stories of Jesus
ark	the ship built by Noah to save his family and animals from the Flood

Links with other Religions

- The 10 Commandments (Judaism). Jews believe God made a covenant with Moses. God gave Moses a set of rules that Jewish people should live by (The 10 Commandments).
- The People of God (Judaism). Jews believe that they are the ‘chosen people of God’ and that He will take special care of them if they do the things He asks them to do.
- Noah (Judaism). The story of Noah is an important Jewish story because the covenant promises were made to the Jewish people.
- Noah (Islam). Noah is an important figure in Islamic tradition. Muslims believe Noah is a prophet sent by Allah (God).



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 5 – Sikhism: the Khalsa

Key Question

How far would a Sikh go for his / her religion?

Key Beliefs

- Some Sikhs choose to take part in a joining ceremony as part of their religion – the Amrit Ceremony.
- Sikhs who have completed the sacred Amrit Ceremony are called Khalsas.
- The Amrit Ceremony is part of a Sikh’s own personal spiritual development.
- They take part in the ceremony when they believe they are ready to live up to the high expectations of Guru Gobind Singh.
- The Amrit Ceremony is a choice to make a commitment and can help some Sikhs keep their promises to God. This is because they spoke their promises in public so other people will expect them to keep them.
- Through making these promises, it shows Sikhs have made a commitment to God.
- The promises include: You shall never remove any hair from any part of the body. You shall not use tobacco, alcohol or any other intoxicants. You shall not eat Halal meat. You shall not commit adultery.
- The 5Ks serve as a physical reminder of the promises they have made and helps Sikhs keep them.
- They are physical signs to themselves, others and the world that they are a member of the Khalsa.
- They are an outward symbol of an inner commitment.



Key vocabulary

belong	to be a member of a particular group
ceremony	a formal religious or public occasion
guru	‘teacher’ or ‘leader’
Khalsa	pure
Guru Gobind Singh	the last of the ten Gurus
Guru Granth Sahib	the holy scriptures of Sikhism

Links with other Religions

- Baptism (Christianity). Baptism marks the start of Christian life. Some Christians believe that baptism makes someone a member of God’s family.
- Confirmation (Christianity). A baptised person confirms the promises made at baptism. It is a sign of full membership to the Christian community.
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Judaism). After these ceremonies, Jewish boys or girls become responsible for living according to Jewish Law.
- Sacred Thread ceremony/Upanayana (Hinduism). A ceremony for boys in some Hindu communities to confirm they are of an age to take on religious responsibility.



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 5 – Christianity: The Christmas

Key Question

Is the Christmas story true?

Key Beliefs

- Jesus was Jewish.
- Christians believe Jesus is God in the flesh.
- They believe that his birth, life, death and resurrection were part of a longer plan by God to restore the relationship between humans and God.
- The Old Testament talks about a messiah. Some texts talk about what this 'messiah' would be like. A special person sent by God. Someone to make Israel a great nation and bring peace to the world. A king for Israel to bring the country back to God. A military leader to fight and defeat the enemy. Someone descended from King David. A great leader like David. Someone born in Bethlehem.
- Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled these expectations, and that he is the Messiah.
- Christians see Jesus as their Saviour.
- For Christians, Christmas is a time of celebration of the arrival of the Messiah.

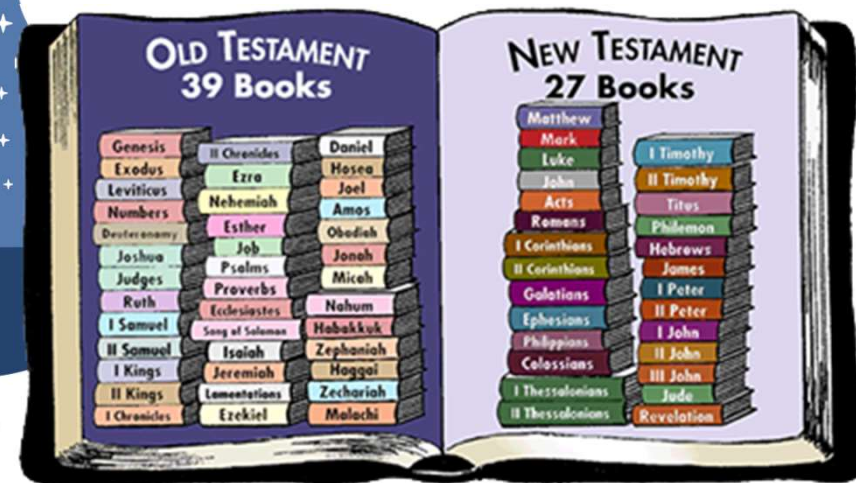


Key vocabulary

restore	to put back to an earlier or original state
messiah	a 'rescuer' or 'appointed one'
People of God	a description of those who follow Christ
prophecy	a prediction of what might happen in the future
advent	a season marking the preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus

Links with other Religions

- Messiah (Judaism). Jewish people believe that a Messiah will come to save them. They do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah. They are still waiting for the Messiah prophesied in the Tanakh (Old Testament).
- Messiah (Islam). Muslims accept the Jewish belief that there were prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. They also accept the Christians claim that Jesus was the expected Messiah. Muslims, however, do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God. In the Qur'an, Jesus is recognised as a Messiah as well as a prophet or messenger of God.
- Mahdi (Islam). The Mahdi is another messianic figure in Islam. Some Muslims believe the Mahdi will change the world into a perfect and just Islamic society.



Key Question

Are Sikh stories important today?

Key Beliefs

- Sharing is an important part of the Sikh faith.
- The Guru Granth Sahib gives three rules to live by.
- One of these is share with the needy whatever you can spare.
- These rules are important, as God gave them the rules and they will be pleasing/respecting God by doing these things.
- Vaisakhi Festival This festival remembers the beginning of the Khalsa. Sikh communities celebrate festivals by holding public processions and sharing their joy with other communities. The Nishan Sahib is taken down and replaced with a new flag, the flagpole is taken down and washed in milk and yoghurt, and then water to symbolise cleanliness and purity. They share in community activities such as processing through their local town, singing hymns and serving langar.
- The example set by the Gurus in the two festivals inspires Sikhs to take part in SEWA – selfless service.
- Sikhs believe they have a responsibility to live a good life and challenge injustice like the Gurus did.
- The Langar is a shared meal offered free to anyone after each service of worship at the Gurdwara. It is provided for by the community who take it in turns to prepare and serve people. Everyone is seen as equal through the sharing of Karah Parshad and the Langar.

Key vocabulary

share	to divide food, money, goods etc
Guru Granth Sahib	the Sikh holy book
Gurdwara	Sikh place of worship
injustice	lack of fairness
Karah Prashad	A kind of special pudding served to the congregation at the end of a service
Guru Hargobind	The sixth Guru
Nishan Sahib	The orange flag outside of a Gurdwara

Links with other Religions

- Jesus' Teachings (Christianity). Jesus taught that Christians should be kind to others.
- Holy Communion (Christianity). In communion, many Christians eat bread and drink wine together in memory of how Jesus died on the cross. They remember Jesus' last meal which he shared with his disciples before he died.
- Lots of religions celebrate festivals by the giving and receiving of gifts, for example: Christmas (Christianity), Chanukah (Judaism), Diwali and Pancha Ganapati (Hinduism), and Eid (Islam).
- Zakat (Islam). Zakat is the third Pillar of Islam. Muslims share their money with others by donating 2.5% of their earnings to charity.
- Tzedakah (Judaism). Tzedakah means 'charity.' Giving Tzedakah is one of the most important commandments for Jews. Many Jews keep a tzedakah box in their homes where they collect money for a charity.



Key Question

How significant is it for Christians to believe God intended Jesus to die?

Key Beliefs

- The New Testament says that Jesus' death was 'for us'.
- They believe Jesus' death was a sacrifice – he gave his life for others.
- Jesus willingly sacrificed his own life for the greater cause of taking punishment for sins away from humans for all time.
- Christians believe that Jesus died to save people – to rescue them from their sins and to bring them back to God.
- Christians remember Jesus' sacrifice for them every time they take Holy Communion.
- Christians believe that Jesus calls them to sacrifice their own needs to the needs of others, and some are prepared to die for others and for their faith.
- Christians also believe that Jesus does not just show them the way to heaven, he actually is the way. Through Jesus' sacrifice, he opens the way to heaven.
- Christians believe that God loves them and that Jesus saves them from a terrible fate – life without God after they die. As a result, they want to please Jesus, and show gratitude for his sacrifice on the cross. This means that they want to follow Jesus' teachings.



Key vocabulary

stations of the Cross	a series of images showing Jesus on the day of his crucifixion
symbolism	the use of symbols to represent something
salvation	the saving of humans
martyr	a person who is killed because of their beliefs

Links with other Religions

- Abraham (Judaism). According to the Torah, God commanded Abraham to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice as a test of his faith.
- Eid ul-Adha (Islam). Eid ul-Adha is a festival which remembers the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son when ordered to by Allah (God). By taking part in this festival, Muslims show that they too are prepared to sacrifice their lives for God.
- The Khalsa (Sikhism). The Khalsa remembers five volunteers who were prepared to offer their lives for Waheguru (God) and Guru Gobind Singh. Their commitment is an example of SEWA – a willingness to serve others without thought for their own wellbeing.
- Guru Arjan and Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikhism). Both Guru Arjan and Guru Tegh Bahadur sacrificed their lives for what they believed in. Guru Arjan was killed for refusing to stop preaching Guru Nanak's message and Guru Tegh Bahadur was killed while standing up for the rights of Hindus.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 5 – Sikhism: Prayer and Worship

Key Question

What is the best way for a Sikh to show commitment to God?

Key Beliefs

- Sikhs are proud to visibly show commitment to their faith. This can be done in many ways, including:
 - **Joining the Khalsa through the Amrit Ceremony and wearing the 5 Ks.** Sikhs make a commitment to God by making promises at the Amrit Ceremony and wearing the 5Ks to remind them to keep these promises.
 - **Worshipping in the Gurdwara.** The main purpose of worship is to praise the one, true God. The Mool Mantar is recited daily in morning prayer. To show respect in the Gurdwara, Sikhs wash their hands, cover their heads and remove their shoes before they enter. Sikhs often sing kirtan because it helps them to feel connected to Waheguru and focus on Waheguru.
 - **Reading and respecting the Guru Granth Sahib.** The Guru Granth Sahib is kept under a special canopy in the Gurdwara and when it is not used it is covered up. It is also kept in a separate bedroom overnight. Sikhs take off their shoes in the presence of the holy scriptures and make sure they never turn their back on them. They also kneel in front of the Guru Granth Sahib and touch the floor to show respect. Sikhs sit on the floor, so the Guru Granth Sahib is higher than them, to show respect.
 - **Following the three golden rules of Sikhism:** Meditation and prayer; earn an honest wage and share with others in need and treat everyone equally.
 - **Serving the community through the Langar meal and other areas of SEWA.** Showing love for others shows love for Waheguru. This is because Waheguru is present in everyone, and so respecting and helping people means helping Waheguru. Examples of SEWA include: helping at the Gurdwara (e.g. cleaning, washing dishes or serving in the langar), teaching people how to read or understand the Guru Granth Sahib or sharing your wealth (e.g. giving money to charity).

Key vocabulary

5Ks	Five symbols of faith worn by Sikhs
amrit	The ceremony for joining the Khalsa
khalsa	means 'pure'
Mool Mantra	a Sikh statement of belief
Gurwara	Sikh place of worship
rirtan	singing hymns
Waheguru	God
SEWA	Selfless service
langar	the shared meal at the Gurdwara

Links with other Religions

- **Places of Worship (different religions).** Lots of different religions will visit their place of worship to show their commitment to God/their beliefs, for example: the Church (Christianity), the Synagogue (Judaism), the Temple (Hinduism and Buddhism) and the Mosque (Islam).
- **Rules (different religions).** Many religions have rules which believers try to follow to show their commitment, for example: The 10 Commandments (Judaism/Christianity), The 5 Pillars of Islam (Islam) and The Five Precepts (Buddhism).
- **Symbols (different religions).** Some believers wear religious symbols or clothing to show their commitment, for example wearing a cross or crucifix (Christianity), wearing a kippah, tefillin or tallit (Judaism) or wearing a hijab (Islam).



RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 5 – Christianity: Commitment to God

Key Question

What is the best way for Christians to show commitment to God?

Key Beliefs

- Christians are committed to God and show their commitment in different ways.
- One way is through following the Ten Commandments.
- Many Christians show commitment to God by attending church every Sunday and worshipping God.
- Christians believe that praying to God shows commitment.
- Christians also show commitment through taking Holy Communion. It helps Christians to remember Jesus dying for them on the cross. By taking communion it shows their commitment to God.
- Christians show commitment to God by believing and trusting in Jesus and trying to be like Jesus.
- Some Christians have dedicated their lives to helping others in order to show their love and commitment to God, for example: Martin Luther King, Mother Teresa, Christian charities and even members of the local church.
- Many Christians will choose to be confirmed (received into the Church as an adult). It enables a baptised person to confirm the promises made on their behalf at baptism

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- Wisdom
- Knowledge
- Counsel
- Fortitude
- Understanding
- Piety
- Fear of the Lord



Key vocabulary

commitment	a willingness to give your time and energy to a job or activity
gifts of the Holy Spirit	the gifts are: wisdom, understanding, guidance, strength, knowledge, devotion and fear of the lord
prayer	the act of talking to God
the Lord's prayer	the prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples
confirmation	strengthening or deepening one's commitment to God
Holy Spirit	the third part of the Trinity
holy communion	a Christian ceremony in which bread and wine are consumed in memory of Jesus

Links with other Religions

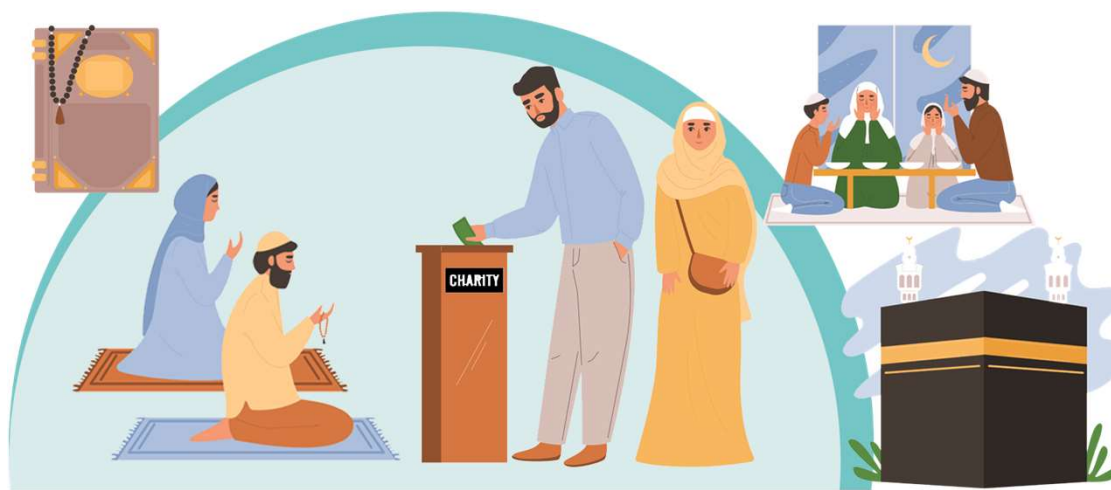
- The Amrit Ceremony/Khalsa (Sikhism). Sikhs choose to go through the initiation of the Amrit Ceremony to show their commitment to their religion, just as Christians choose to be confirmed.
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Judaism). The Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony shows a commitment to Judaism.
- Shabbat (Judaism). Jewish people celebrate Shabbat weekly.
- Jumu'ah (Islam). Many Muslims (especially Muslim men) attend Friday prayer every week at the mosque to remember Allah (God).
- Salat (Islam). Salat is the second Pillar of Islam and is the compulsory Muslim prayers, performed five times each day by Muslims.
- Zakat (Islam). Zakat is the third Pillar of Islam. Muslims help others by donating 2.5% of their earnings to charity.
- SEWA (Sikhism). Sikhs help others by sharing their earnings and giving to Charity as part of SEWA . Many Sikhs donate one-tenth of their income to charity (daswandh).
- Dana (Hinduism). Dana (giving) in Hinduism is about giving generously to those in need.

Key Question

What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?

Key Beliefs

- The five pillars of Islam are central to Muslim life and worship.
- The first pillar of Islam is Shahadah. This is a statement which is repeated many times a day: There is one God, Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.
- The second pillar of Islam is Salat.
- Muslims believe it is their duty to pray to Allah five times each day to show their belief and be reminded of God so they do not forget about Him.
- Muslims believe they can worship God anywhere.
- Many Muslims choose to go to the Mosque for lunchtime prayers on a Friday, the Muslim holy day.
- The third pillar of Islam is Zakah – giving money to charity.
- Muslims think it is their duty to give to charity as everything they own belongs to God.
- The fourth pillar of Islam is Sawm.
- During the month of Ramadan every year, Muslims do not eat or drink at all during the hours of daylight.
- Fasting is a way of showing that they are living in the way that God wants and remembering people who are hungry.
- Muslims believe it shows that their religion is the most important thing in their lives – more important than eating or drinking.
- The fifth pillar of Islam is Hajj.
- Muslims are expected to visit Mecca at least once in their lifetime.



Key vocabulary

Allah	the Arabic word for God
Qur'an	the holy book for Muslims
Ramadan	month of fasting
Hajj	the pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca
Pillars of Islam	the five religious acts considered compulsory for Muslims
Mecca	The holiest city for Muslims

Links with other Religions

- Lent (Christianity). Christians fast during Lent to remember Jesus' sacrifice when he went into the desert to pray and fast for 40 days.
- Yom Kippur (Judaism). Jewish people fast for 25 hours during Yom Kippur so they can reflect and repent (apologise) for their sins.
- SEWA (Sikhism). Sikhs share their earnings and give to Charity as part of SEWA (selfless service). Many Sikhs donate one-tenth of their income to charity (daswandh).
- Rules (different religions). Many religions have rules which believers try to follow to show their commitment, for example: The 10 Commandments (Christianity/Judaism), The Three Golden Rules (Sikhism) and The Five Precepts (Buddhism).
- The Mool Mantra (Sikhism). The Mool Mantra means 'essential teaching' and gives a short description of what God is like. Sikhs frequently recite the Mool Mantra in worship, including their morning prayers. The first line is: 'There is only one God.'
- The Apostles' Creed/The Nicene Creed (Christianity). The Creeds are a summary of what the Church teaches and of what Christians together believe. The first line is: 'I believe in God, the father almighty.' One of the Creeds is usually recited during church services.

RE | Knowledge Organiser: Year 6 – Christianity: Jesus the Messiah

Key Question

Do Christmas celebrations help Christians understand who Jesus was and why he was born?

Key Beliefs

- The Old Testament talks about a messiah. Some texts talk about what this ‘messiah’ would be like.
- Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled these expectations, and that he is the Messiah.
- Although Jesus fulfilled the old prophecies, there are new twists to the story. The longed-for Messiah was not a warrior, but the son of a humble carpenter, who teaches his followers to love their enemies and offers to save not just the Jewish people, but the whole human race.
- Jesus was a surprising person who turned expectations on their head.
- For Christians, the belief that Jesus is more than the Messiah – but God in the flesh – means that faith in Jesus can transform people’s lives now.
- Christians try to reach out to others as God reached out to them through Jesus.
- Christians believe Jesus was: A saviour who rescued through making peace with enemies. A humble, ordinary man yet the Son of God. Part of an older story, yet the first chapter of a new story.
- Christians need to learn that their Messiah was humble and a peacemaker.
- Christians try to demonstrate that they too are peacemakers like their Messiah.



Key vocabulary

Old Testament	the first part of the bible, before the birth of Jesus Christ
New Testament	the second part of the bible, after the birth of Jesus Christ
messiah	a ‘rescuer’ or ‘appointed one’
savior	one who saves someone else
transfiguration	transformation
prophecy	a prediction of what will happen in the future

Links with other Religions

- **Messiah (Judaism).** Jewish people believe that a Messiah will come to save them. They do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah. They are still waiting for the Messiah prophesised in the Tanakh (Old Testament).
- **Messiah (Islam).** Muslims accept the Jewish belief that there were prophecies about the coming of the Messiah. They also accept the Christians claim that Jesus was the expected Messiah. Muslims, however, do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God. In the Qur’an, Jesus is recognised as a Messiah as well as a prophet or messenger of God.
- **Mahdi (Islam).** The Mahdi is another messianic figure in Islam. Some Muslims believe the Mahdi will change the world into a perfect and just Islamic society.

Key Question

Is anything ever eternal?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe that God's love for humankind is eternal in that God will never stop loving humanity. Even if they do wrong, they can say sorry and God will forgive them because he loves them.
- Jesus portrayed love in the Bible; He taught that love should be eternal and unconditional.
- Christians believe that because of Jesus' resurrection, Christians will be able to have life after death (eternal life).
- They believe Jesus made forgiveness possible by His crucifixion.
- Christians believe it is Jesus' sacrifice of salvation that means they can enter heaven where they can live eternally being loved by and loving God.
- Christians believe that for eternal life they need to: believe in God, do their best to follow the Ten Commandments and the Two Great Commandments, and ask for forgiveness when they need it.
- In a Christian wedding, the bride and groom promise to love each other for their whole lifetime.
- They give each other rings which symbolise eternity.



Key vocabulary

eternal	lasting or existing forever
unconditional	within limits
agape	a Christian word meaning 'universal and unconditional love'
parable	a story used to illustrate a moral or lesson
sacrifice	to give up something for something else considered to be more important

Links with other Religions

- Salvation (Christianity). Christians believe God sent Jesus to earth to die and to be resurrected to allow humans to have a pathway back to God where they can live with God for eternity.
- Samsara (Hinduism). Hindus believe that the soul (atman) is eternal and lives many lifetimes until the soul is freed from the cycle (moksha).
- Samsara (Sikhism). Sikhs believe the cycle of samsara repeats itself until the atma (soul) has been released from the cycle and is reunited with Waheguru (mukti).
- Samsara (Buddhism). The Buddha taught that humans are born an infinite number of times, unless they achieve Nirvana (enlightenment).
- Annica/Impermanence (Buddhism). Buddhists believe things in life are always changing. Nothing stays the same as everything is subject to change. Buddhists do not believe in an eternal or everlasting soul.
- Akhira (Islam). Muslims believe in everlasting life after death.
- Guru Granth Sahib (Sikhism). The Guru Granth Sahib is considered the Eternal Guru that guides Sikhs.
- God (different religions). Many religions believe in the eternality of their God(s). For example: Judaism (God), Christianity (God), Sikhism (Waheguru), Hinduism (Brahman) and Islam (Allah).

Key Question

Is Christianity still a strong religion 2,000 years after Jesus was on Earth?

Key Beliefs

- Christians believe Jesus willingly gave up his own life in order to take on the punishment for all sin, for all people. Because of sin, people need to be saved and Jesus brings salvation.
- The Gospel presents a number of witnesses to the resurrection.
- Belief in Jesus' resurrection confirms to Christians that Jesus is the incarnate Son of God, but also that death is not the end.
- This belief gives Christians hope for life with God, starting now and continuing in a new life (heaven).
- Many Christians say that a belief in the resurrection of Jesus, and therefore that death is not the end, leads to hope.



Key vocabulary

gospels	the Gospels give accounts of Jesus' death – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
incarnate	in human form
salvation	the saving of humans from sin
sacrifice	to give up something valuable to you in order to help someone
resurrection	the rising of Jesus from the dead
sin	purposely disobey the rules of God

Links with other Religions

- The Son of God (Judaism). Jews do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God.
- Eternality (Christianity). Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, Christians believe that after they die, they will have eternal life in Heaven with God.
- Life after Death (Judaism). While Jewish people believe there is a life after death, the details of this are unclear. Most Jews concentrate on living a good life today in the present, rather than what will happen when they die.
- Samsara (Sikhism). Many Sikhs believe that all beings have a soul (atma). The atma is a part of Waheguru within them. Through a series of reincarnations, Sikhs believe they will be purified and able to return to Waheguru.
- Samsara (Buddhism). The Buddha taught that humans are born an infinite number of times, unless they achieve Nirvana (enlightenment).
- Samsara (Hinduism). Most Hindus believe that humans are in a cycle of death and rebirth called samsara. When a person dies, their atman (soul) is reborn in a different body.
- Akhira (Islam). Muslims believe in everlasting life after death in Al-Jannah (Paradise) or Jahannam (Hell).

Key Question

Does belief in Akhirah help Muslims live good lives?

Key Beliefs

- Muslims try to live 'good' lives – lives they believe will show love and respect to Allah, for example: by following the Five Pillars of Islam.
- Muslims believe that Allah will judge them when they die and weigh up the good things they have done against the not so good.
- They believe that their daily thoughts, words and actions will be used as evidence.
- This belief encourages Muslims to live in the 'right way' and try to do the right thing.
- Every Muslim will have a judgement day which will determine whether they go to heaven after they die.
- It may also determine which tier/part of Heaven they are allowed to go to.
- Muslims believe Allah will be fair and just: their after life will be what they deserve.
- The spiritual struggle or effort of every Muslim to follow the teachings of Allah in their own lives is called 'Greater Jihad.'
- Greater Jihad is an individual's personal struggle against evil. This evil might prevent you from doing the will of Allah. This is a daily feature in the life of a Muslim as they try to ensure that every aspect of their life is lived in line with Allah's will.

Key vocabulary

Akhirah	life after death
motivation	a reason for acting in a particular way
judgement	to form an opinion by looking at evidence
Jihad	struggle or effort
Greater Jihad	personal individual struggle against evil
righteous	acting in accord with divine moral law

Links with other Religions

- Heaven (Christianity). Christians believe those who believe in Christ and live good lives will be given eternal life in Heaven with God and Jesus.
- Life after Death (Judaism). While Jewish people believe there is a life after death, the details of this are unclear. Most Jews concentrate on living a good life today in the present, rather than what will happen when they die.
- Samsara (Sikhism). Many Sikhs believe that all beings have a soul (atma). The atma is a part of Waheguru within them. Through a series of reincarnations, Sikhs believe they will be purified and able to return to Waheguru.
- Samsara (Buddhism). The Buddha taught that humans are born an infinite number of times, unless they achieve Nirvana (enlightenment).
- Samsara (Hinduism). Most Hindus believe that humans are in a cycle of death and rebirth called samsara. When a person dies, their atman (soul) is reborn in a different body.
- Yawm ad-Din (Judaism). Jews believe the Day of Judgement will occur after the coming of the Messiah. They believe that God will judge how good or bad people have been in order to decide their destiny in the afterlife.

