

Religious Studies Department

Year 8

Topic: Sikhism

Learning Journey

Prior learning: Students will have looked at similar themes (key figures, key moral principles, community and representation) looking at Buddhism in Year 7. However, the Sikh religion and its unique history will not have been covered before and prior knowledge will not be expected.

Learning sequence – topic title							Endpoint
Main learning steps	Students are introduced to the origins of Sikhism and its founder, Guru Nanak. They will be introduced to key parts of his life and his view of the world.	Students will explore the history of Sikhism, considering other significant Gurus and significant moments in the religion’s timeline.	Students explore different ideas in relation to the Sikh community, starting with the establishment of the Khalsa.	Students continue to explore the Sikh community by exploring different attitudes within Sikhism.	Students continue to develop their understanding of Sikh community by exploring the importance of the Sikh Guardwara, the Guru Granth Sahib and the concept of Sewa.	Students consider representation of marginalised communities in society and the media, considering how Sikhism and Sikh culture is distorted and stereotyped and the problems this can cause.	Students consider the rights of Sikhs as a small community and explore ideas around how different rights can conflict and how to resolve these conflicts appropriately.
Assessment	.						Students complete a test

								paper with questions in the style of one section of a Religious Studies GCSE paper. This will be an opportunity to practice effective technique and show clear knowledge and understanding. The paper will be formally marked to highlight clear strengths in answering and guidance on how to improve.
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Where will we use these ideas again: *The theme and structure for exploring a new religion will be repeated. The ideas regarding media representation, diversity of views within a religion and questions about rights and justice will be important themes in the GCSE, especially while studying Islam in Year 11.*