

Religious Studies Department

Year 8

Topic: Sikhism

Learning Journey

Prior learning: Students will have looked at similar themes (spiritual beliefs, key moral principles, community and representation) looking at Buddhism in Year 7 and Sikhism at the beginning of year 8. However, the Hindu 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 unique and complex Hindu beliefs around theism. They will be introduced to the idea of Brahman and central ideas and figures of the Hindu pantheon.	Students will explore the key Hindu scriptures, considering their key teachings and how the inform Hindu key beliefs.	Students explore key Hindu beliefs and concepts and how they influenced Gandhi and his resistance to Empire.	Students continue to consider Gandhi’s resistance to Empire, considering the significance of Hindu beliefs and the significance of other influences.	Students continue to develop their understanding of Hinduism by exploring the beliefs regarding life after death, reincarnation and the concepts of Karma and the Caste system.	Students consider the significance of the Caste System in Hindu communities today, the different tensions it raises and the different perspectives in the modern day.	Students further explore the Hindu community through exploring practices of worship – at home and at the Mandir – and the communal celebration of festivals.
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 diversity of views within a religion will be covered throughout other units and be significant in the GCSE; alternative views on life after death is an important topic in while studying Christianity in year 10; and questions about rights and justice will be important themes in the GCSE, especially while studying Islam in Year 11.*