

Medium Term Plan: Religious Education

Year 3 Sikhism

Year 3 Key Question (to be used all year): Who should we follow?

Focus Question (for this investigation): Why are the Gurus important to Sikhs?

Concepts:

Transcendence

Belief

Worship

Tradition

Morality

Commitment

Identity

Interdependence

Key Vocabulary: Sikhism, Guru, God, Guru Nanak, Guru Gobind Singh, Guru Granth Sahib, sacred, scriptures, Gurdwara, founder, commitments,

Prior learning:

Core Knowledge: In depth study

- Look at examples of famous sporting leaders. Create a list of the characteristics needed by such people – dedication, commitment, perseverance, determination, resilience, team players etc. Discuss why people like this are often seen as role models.
- Talk about people who are inspiring role models in contemporary society – how do they influence us? What type of things do we commit ourselves to because of the influence of such role models (eg. practising a sport, working hard to develop a particular talent, caring for the environment, helping others).
- Explain that the term guru means teacher – but not like a teacher at school. It is used to refer to people who teach wisdom, often religious teachers and leaders.
- After the death of Guru Nanak, a series of gurus led the community. The tenth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, named his successor as the Guru Granth Sahib – the Sikh sacred scripture. Ask pupils to think about why a book might be viewed as a guru and what impact this might have on how the book is treated.
- Ask pupils how they would prepare if a very important person was coming to stay with them – explain that the Guru Granth Sahib is treated as a VIP. Link this with the idea of showing commitment. Even though to a non-Sikh it might just be seen as a book, to a Sikh it should be treated as a living guru and so they are committed to treating it with the greatest respect.
- Explore how the Guru Granth Sahib is treated. Look at images of how it is kept inside the Gurdwara – if possible, visit a Gurdwara or invite a representative of the Sikh faith into school
- Consolidate learning – ask pupils to compile a list of the values and commitments that would be part of the Sikh way of life. They should be able to explain where these values and commitments come from: eg. Sikhs are committed to equality – this was demonstrated through the life of Guru Nanak and the example of Guru Gobind Singh. These could be used to script/role play an interview with a Sikh on the theme of commitment.
- Look at an image of a Sikh person and ask pupils to explain how the person publicly expresses their commitment to Sikhism. Discuss why religious people might want to show their commitment in a way that everyone can see. Talk about the fact that a person might need to have a strong faith and be quite brave to show their commitments in this way – and the importance of other people in society being respectful of this.

Key Questions: -

- Who should I follow?
- Who are our role models?
- How can we try and be more like them in our daily lives?
- What type of things really inspire people to become committed?
- What does it mean to make a commitment to something?
- What are my commitments?
- How do I show that I am committed?

Wider Influences: worth being familiar with

- Learn about the story of Guru Nanak <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twkJ1pc5BvU> Talk about the leadership and characteristics that Guru Nanak displayed that make him a role model for Sikhs
- Pupils could produce a biographical profile of Guru Nanak's life
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2LbTwwGsAY>
- Learn about the first Baisakhi and how it is celebrated by Sikhs. Discuss what a Sikh child might learn from the celebrations about the commitments involved in the Sikh faith. <https://www.cbc.ca/kidscbc2/the-feed/whats-the-story-vaisakhi>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= fffDtJWUaM>
- Design a T-shirt that would show their own values and commitments

Enduring Understanding:

- Develop an understanding of the importance of founders and leaders for religious communities
- Identify Sikh beliefs and values contained within the stories of the lives of the Gurus
- Describe how and why the Guru Granth Sahib is treated with great respect
- Suggest how and why Sikhs might show commitment to their faith
- Identify people and ideas that inspire commitment
- Discuss the different ways that people might show that they are committed
- Reflect on their own commitments and the impact that these have on their lives
- Ask questions about the value of having commitments