

# Religious Education

*All children – regardless of gender, starting point or background – will have the opportunity to engage with a high-quality religious education. They will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and vocabulary to learn through a diocese linked curriculum that provides opportunities to reflect, discuss and explore more about the world in which they live in. The curriculum provides children with the knowledge of different religious traditions, celebrations, stories and values. Our RE curriculum pupils develop an understanding of themselves and others as well as respecting differences. Lessons will promote the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of individuals and communities. We intend to inspire a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about different world religions.*

## Why is Community and Equality Important to Sikhs?

Autumn 1

### New Knowledge:

- Sikhs believe that all religious paths lead to the same god.
- They believe that there is only one God, and that everyone is equal in God's eyes. Sikhs also believe that we should be good people by being kind to all, working hard and always helping all people and animals.
- Sikhism teaches that all human beings are equal and can realise the divine within them through devotion to God, truthful living and service to humanity.
- The Sikh faith was founded by Guru Nanak, who was born into a Hindu family. When he was 30, he mysteriously disappeared for 3 days; when he reappeared he began to preach Sikh faith. He then spent the rest of his life teaching, writing and travelling around the world to discuss religion with Muslims and Hindus.
- Guru Nanak was the first of ten Sikh Gurus.
- The Guru Granth Sahib is the Sikh holy book. However, it is not just a book to Sikhs; it is treated as a living guru.
- Sacred hymns or Shabads make up the Guru Granth Sahib - it is full of wisdom and teachings for Sikhs.
- The Guru Granth Sahib is treated with the highest respect. Symbols for respect for the Guru Granth Sahib include: bowing the head to the ground in the presence of the Guru, covering the head, removing shoes to enter the presence of the Guru, sprinkling water ahead of the Guru Granth Sahib and providing a room and bed for rest. The greatest respect for the teachings is living a life inspired by the wisdom of the Gurus.
- Sikhs display their commitment to their beliefs by wearing the Sikh articles of faith. The five articles of faith start with the "k" alphabet in Punjabi and are thereby referred to as the 5 K's.
- They are:
  1. Kesh (uncut hair)
  2. Kangha (comb)
  3. Kara (steel bracelet)
  4. Kirpan (sword)
  5. Kaccha - Kachhera (soldier's shorts)
- Sikhs lead their lives to the best of their ability by showing community and equality. They do this by living by and demonstrating a number of good values such as:
  1. everyone is equal before god,
  2. everyone has the right to life (but that life has duties such as prayer, meditation, family, helping others, remembering God),
  3. Your actions always count,

Sikhism



Religious & Cultural Diversity