

## Year 4

### R.E. Knowledge Organiser - People of Faith: Sikh Rites of Passage (AT1:2, AT2:2, AT1:4, AT2:4)

Key Enquiry Questions:	
What are the core basic beliefs of a Sikh? (re- cap)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sikhs believe in one creator God.</li> <li>• Sikhs believe that everyone is equal, regardless of gender, race or creed.</li> <li>• Sikhs believe that the way to live a good life is to live as part of a community, being honest and caring for other people.</li> <li>• Sikhs believe that superstitions and rituals have no real place in religion.</li> <li>• Sikhs believe in reincarnation (being reborn into another life when you die) until you become one with god and end the painful cycle of birth, life and death.</li> </ul>
What are the key rites of passage?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naming ceremony of Sikh children - 'Naam Karan'</li> <li>• Sikh baptismal ceremony - Amrit</li> <li>• Sikh marriage ceremony - Anand Karaj</li> <li>• Sikh funerals (Antam Sanskar) life after death - reincarnation</li> </ul>

Key Vocabulary	
amrit	Naming ceremony.
equality	Belief that all are equal in value and worth, regardless of status, gender etc.
five ks	Items which represent beliefs which are fundamental to the Sikh faith (kesh, Kara, Kirpan, kaccha and kanga).
meditation	Involves focussing your mind on one thing and shutting out distractions, Sikhs focus on god and how they should behave.
guru	A spiritual leader.
Sikh	Learner or disciple; people who follow the teachings of Guru Nanak.
Sikhism	The name of the religion followed by Sikhs.
gurdwara	The place where Sikhs come together for worship.
langar	Communal meal at gurdwara; act of seva.
sharing	Share, give to those in need: Langar.
Guru Nanak	Founder of Sikhism.
khanda	Sikh symbol: The circle in the centre represents one god with no beginning and no end. The double-edged sword in the middle represents the almighty power of god and the two swords on the outside represent the spiritual and political balance of the world.
Punjab	Area of India where Sikhism was founded in 16 <sup>th</sup> century.
reincarnation	Being reborn into another life when you die.
Guru Granth Sahib	Sikh holy book.
Singh	Lion - added after a boy's first name.
Kaur	Princess - added after a girl's first name.
Mool Mantra	Important text in the Guru Granth Sahib that describes what God is like.
Anand Karaj	Sikh wedding ceremony - 'Blissful Union'
Guru Gobind Singh	The 10 <sup>th</sup> Guru, set up the Khalsa.

Important Facts / Ideas	
Sikhism	Sikhism is about 500 years old. It was founded by Guru Nanak. It is one of the main world religions. It has an emphasis on the way people live their lives, with core values (equality, meditation, hard work and honesty, sharing, 5 Ks). Sikhism is the fifth largest religion in the world and has over 26 million followers globally. The largest population of Sikhs can be found in the Punjab area of India.
Guru Nanak	<p>The founder of Sikhism is Guru Nanak, who was born into a Hindu family, and wanted nothing more than to worship the One True God, which Sikhs call by many names, including Waheguru. He looked beyond the religious practices around him at the time (Hinduism and Islam) and encouraged his followers to search only for God.</p> <p>Nanak worked, married young (19 years old) and had two sons. One morning when he was about 30 years old he went to bathe in the river, as usual. But he disappeared; people searched for him for 3 days with no luck, they thought he must have drowned. Then he returned. The first thing he said was; 'there is no Hindu nor Muslim'. He told people that while he was away, he had been taken to God. He had a vision which told him that just following a religion did not make a difference, it is the way they live their lives which really matters. He said that he had been told by God to spend the rest of his life teaching people. From this time on Nanak was known as Guru Nanak.</p>

## Key diagrams

The 5 Ks  
Sikhs demonstrate their membership of the Khalsa by committing to perform daily prayers and also by wearing the 5 Ks.  
These objects are not special in themselves, but they represent beliefs and practices that are significant for Sikhs. The Turban is not one of the 5 Ks, but it is an important outward sign of their faith for Khalsa Sikhs.



Where did Sikhism begin?

