Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	RE: Sikhism	YEAR 5	TERM 1

Key Knowledge

Area of focus: Believing and Belonging

Five Key Sikh Beliefs:

- God is in everything.
- It is a Sikh's duty to serve others.
- All people should be treated as equals.
- Sikhs should share what they can with others.
- Sikhs should earn their living honestly.

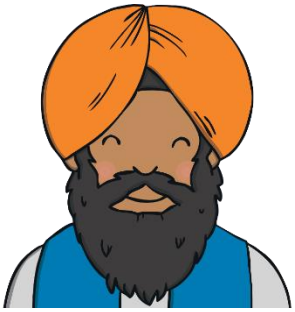
Key question: How far would a Sikh go for his/ her religion?

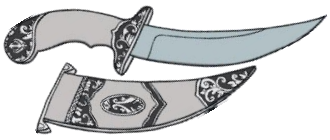
Sikhs show their commitment to their religion in various ways. Their commitment and participation to these aspects of their religion also generates a sense of belonging.

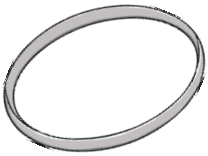
- **The Langar:** This was started by Guru Nanak and means everyone, regardless of their religion or wealth, sits and eats freely provided and freshly produced vegetarian food and non-alcoholic drink. The people sit together as equals. The preparation and serving of food as well as cleaning is voluntary and a key part of every Gurdwara.
- **Marriage:** Sikhs get married when they are fully able to take on responsibilities of married life. Sometimes marriages are arranged by parents but this is not always the case.
- **The Five Ks:** These are physical signs to yourself, others and the world that you are a member of the Khalsa:
  - Kesh – uncut hair; for this reason a turban is worn.
  - Kirpan – a dagger; it is worn only as a symbol of readiness to tackle evil and not as a weapon.
  - Kara – bangle or bracelet; a symbol to remind the wearer of restraint in their actions and to remember God at all times.
  - Kangha – comb; a Khalsa is expected to regularly wash and comb their hair as a matter of hygiene and self-discipline.
  - Kacchera – shorts; a symbol of self-disciple.

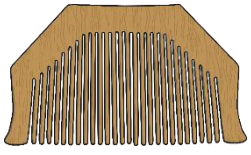
Key vocabulary

- **Gurdwara** – Sikh place of worship.
- **Guru** – Teacher: used in Sikhism to refer to the ten human Gurus and Guru Granth Sahib.
- **Langar** – The community kitchen in a Gurdwara where a free meal is served to all the visitors, regardless of their religion, gender, economic status or ethnicity.
- **Karah prashad** – A sweet pudding served at the end of a service.
- **Commitment** – a promise to do something.
- **Guru Granth Sahib** – Sikh Holy Book that gives guidance on how Sikhs should lead their lives. It is considered as the living Guru (teacher).
- **Amrit** – The Sikh rite of initiation into the Khalsa.
- **Khalsa** – The Sikh community.
- **5 Ks** – The symbols of Sikhism worn by Sikhs.
- **Golden Temple of Amritsar** – The holiest Sikh gurdwara located in the city of Amritsar, Punjab, India.
- **Guru Nanak** – The first Guru and founder of the Sikh faith (1469-1539).











Guru Nanak

Guru Nanak was the first Sikh Guru. He came from a small town in India 500 years ago. He taught his followers that everyone was equal.

- His first job was as a shopkeeper. He told people who came to the shop about how to love and follow God.
- People called him 'Guru' because he taught them about God.
- He travelled around India, spreading God's message that everyone is equal.
- When Guru Nanak died, Guru Angad became the next guru. He continued to spread Guru Nanak's message.

The Golden Temple

At the Golden Temple is a Gurdwara located in the city of Amritsar, Punjab, India.

Over 100,000 people are fed every day at the langar, a sign of how important sharing is to Sikhs. This place is extremely significant for Sikhs.

The temple was designed for men and women from all walks of life and all religions to worship God equally. There are four entrances, this shows the openness of Sikhs towards all people and religions. Over 100,000 people visit the shrine daily for worship, and also participate in the free community kitchen and meal (Langar).



Golden Temple in Amritsar, India.

Information and clip art resources are from Discovery RE and Twinkl.

Amrit Ceremony

- When Sikhs participate in the Amrit Ceremony of initiation, they become part of the Sikh community by taking new names and wearing the 5 Ks.
- The ceremony was introduced in 1699 when Guru Gobind Singh started the Khalsa.
- A Sikh can decide when they feel ready for the initiation and they can understand the commitment they are making for their religion.
- The ceremony takes place in the Sikh place of worship (the Gurdwara) and in the presence of the Holy Book (Guru Granth Sahib) and 5 initiated Sikhs.
- Hymns are recited and prayers are said during the ceremony.
- The amrit is then prepared. This consists of sugar and water which is stirred with a double-edged sword.
- The participants drink some of the amrit from the same bowl and have it sprinkled on their eyes and hair. This is followed by them reciting the fundamentals of Sikhism.
- The end of the ceremony is when Sikhs eat karah parshad (a sweet food which has been blessed).

Learning outcomes

I can identify the different levels of commitment I show to different things and explain these priorities.

I can make links between how Sikhs practise their religion and the beliefs that underpin this.

I can respectfully ask questions about some of the ways Sikhs choose to behave and the levels of commitment they show.

Possible experiences:

- Use natural materials to make representations of the 5K's.
- Make a Sikh wedding card.
- Partake in Langar or make karah prashad.