

The Khalsa

KHALSA – a community of Sikhs who are committed to their religion. It started when Guru Gobind asked ‘who is willing to die for their beliefs?’ Today Sikhs usually join the Khalsa when they are teenagers. They wear 5 special items to show their commitment.

The Five Ks:
Kanga – comb
Kesh – uncut hair
Kara – bangle
Kirpan – dagger
Kachera - shorts



The Langar

GURDWARA – the Sikh place of worship. Every Gurdwara has: a flag outside, a copy of the Guru Granth Sahib, a diwan hall (or worship room) a langar (kitchen/dining room).

In the gurdwara visitors must remove shoes, wash hands and cover their heads. Worshippers sit on the floor, women and men usually on different sides. After the service a meal is cooked and served by members of the congregation. This is called langar, anyone is welcome to share and the food is vegetarian as Sikhs believe everyone is equal. Cooking or washing up is a way of giving service to others which is important to Sikhs.

All Saints CE Aided Primary School and Nursery

Year 5/6 RE

Sikhism

How far would a Sikh go for his or her religion?



Our overall learning objective

To compare the different ways Sikhs put their religion into practice

The Gurus

GURUS

Sikhism began in India in the 15th Century by Guru Nanak. Nanak thought it was wrong to treat people differently because of their race, gender or social status. He believed that everyone should work hard, be honest, help those in need and remember God at all times.



After Guru Nanak died other men were chosen one at a time to be the Guru. Altogether there were 10 human Gurus, the last one was Guru Gobind. He decided that there was no need for another human Guru and so the holy book would be the Guru. It contains prayers and hymns and important teachings and is called Guru Granth Sahib.

The Golden Temple

The Sri Harmandir Sahib is also known as the Golden Temple. It is located in Amritsar, India. Its doors open from all sides to welcome people of all faiths.



The Guru Granth Sahib



The Sikh holy book and their current Guru. A passage is chosen at random each day and read aloud.

The Guru Granth Sahib is always treated with respect: Sikhs bow to it and never turn their back on it; carry it above their heads; when it is being used it rests on a throne, under a canopy; and when it is not being used it is covered with special cloths.

Key Vocabulary

Guru	A spiritual teacher. Sikhism has ten human Gurus
Gurdwara	Sikh place of worship
Guru Granth Sahib	Sikh holy book
The Amrit Ceremony	The ceremony a Sikh goes through to become part of the Khalsa
Khalsa	The community of baptised Sikhs
The Langar	A kitchen at the Gurdwara where all are welcome to eat
The Golden Temple	An important Gurdwara that is located in the holy city of Amritsar. Many Sikhs complete a pilgrimage to this holy site.
The five Ks	Five symbols that Sikh people can wear. Kesh: Hair Kanga: Comb Kara: Bracelet Kachera: Short, white trousers. Kirpan: Small dagger
Arranged marriage	Some Sikh people allow their parents to select who they will marry.
Nishan Sahib	Triangular flag flown outside a Gurdwara.

Key Vocabulary

Guru

Gurdwara

Guru Granth Sahib

The Amrit Ceremony

Khalsa

The Langar

The Golden Temple

The five Ks

Arranged marriage

Nishan Sahib