

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES · Y3-Y6

# Islam

Knowledge Organiser — KS2 RE

## Key vocabulary

1

**Muslim**

A follower of Islam. There are around 1.9 billion Muslims worldwide, making Islam the second-largest religion.

2

**Allah**

The Arabic word for God. Muslims believe Allah is the same God worshipped by Jews and Christians.

3

**Muhammad**

Muslims believe he was the last and greatest prophet of Allah. He lived in Arabia 1,400 years ago. Muslims say 'peace be upon him' after his name.

4

**Qur'an**

The Muslim holy book. Muslims believe it is the exact word of Allah, revealed to Muhammad in Arabic.

5

**Mosque**

The Muslim place of worship. Muslims pray facing Makkah (Mecca).

6

**Imam**

A leader in the mosque who leads prayers and gives sermons.

7

**Halal**

Food and actions that are permitted in Islam. Pork and alcohol are not halal.



8

**Ummah**

The worldwide community of Muslims, regardless of country or language.

## The Five Pillars of Islam

The five duties every Muslim must follow

- 1. Shahadah — declaring belief: 'There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger'
- 2. Salah — praying five times a day (dawn, midday, afternoon, sunset, night), facing Makkah
- 3. Zakat — giving a portion of savings (2.5%) to the poor each year
- 4. Sawm — fasting during the daylight hours of Ramadan (no food or drink)
- 5. Hajj — pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime, if able
- These are the framework of every Muslim's religious life.

## Islamic Festivals and special times

When Muslims celebrate special occasions

- Ramadan — the holy month of fasting, prayer and reflection. Lasts 29-30 days.
- Eid al-Fitr — celebrated at the end of Ramadan, a joyful day of feasting and giving
- Eid al-Adha — 'Festival of Sacrifice', remembering Ibrahim's willingness to obey Allah
- Hajj — annual pilgrimage to Makkah, attended by 2 million Muslims each year
- Mawlid — celebration of the Prophet Muhammad's birthday (peace be upon him)
- Laylat al-Qadr — 'Night of Power', most sacred night of Ramadan
- Friday — the holiest day of the week, with special midday prayers at the mosque

## Places of worship and symbols

Muslims worship in mosques. The Kaaba in Makkah (Mecca), Saudi Arabia, is the holiest site.

Symbols include: the crescent moon and star (often used to represent Islam), Arabic calligraphy



from the Qur'an, geometric patterns (because Islam discourages images of living beings in religious art). Muslims remove shoes before entering a mosque, and wash before prayer (wudu). There are two main branches: Sunni (the majority) and Shia, sharing the Five Pillars but differing on some traditions.

