

RE · KS1–KS2

# Religious Symbols

Classroom display — KS1–KS2

## Key symbols and their meanings

1

### Cross (Christianity) †

Represents the crucifixion of Jesus and his resurrection. The central symbol of the Christian faith. The empty cross (without a figure) emphasises resurrection; the crucifix shows Jesus on the cross.

2

### Crescent moon and star (Islam) ■

Not originally Islamic — became associated with Islam through the Ottoman Empire. Widely used on flags and mosques today. The moon marks important dates in the Islamic calendar.

3

### Star of David (Judaism) ☆

Two overlapping triangles forming a six-pointed star. Named after King David. Used as a symbol of Jewish identity since the 17th century. Appears on the Israeli flag.

4

### Khanda (Sikhism)

The emblem of Sikhism: a double-edged sword in the centre (representing divine knowledge), a circle (representing God — without beginning or end), and two single-edged swords (spiritual and worldly balance).

5

### Dharma wheel / Dharmachakra (Buddhism) ■

An eight-spoked wheel representing the Buddha's Eightfold Path — the guide to ending suffering. Motion represents the ongoing cycle of life and teaching.

6

### Om / Aum (Hinduism) ■

A sacred sound and symbol representing the ultimate reality (Brahman) and the sound of the universe. Chanted in prayer, meditation, and yoga. Among the most sacred sounds in Hinduism.



